

Clackam
Community
History.

Clachan Community Tweedsmuir History

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“FOREWORD”

I am so glad to hear that the Women's Institutes of Ontario are going to compile village history books. Events move very fast nowadays; houses are pulled down, new roads are made, and the aspect of the countryside changes completely sometimes in a short time.

It is a most useful and satisfying task for Women's Institute members to see that nothing valuable is lost or forgotten, and women should be on the alert always to guard the traditions of their homes, and to see that water colour sketches and prints, poems and prose legends should find their way into these books. The oldest people in the village will tell us fascinating stories of what they remember, which the younger members can write down, thus making a bridge between them and events which happened before they were born. After all, it is the history of humanity which is continually interesting to us, and your village histories will be the basis of accurate facts much valued by historians of the future. I am proud to think that you have called them “The Tweedsmuir Village Histories”.

—Written by Lady Tweedsmuir.



MRS. ADELAIDE HOODLESS

FOUNDER OF THE WOMENS INSTITUTE
WHICH WAS ORGANIZED AT STONEY CREEK
ONTARIO IN 1897 FEB. 19TH.

This Tweedsmuir History of the Clachan Community was started about 1950 by Miss Bell Taylor, whose home was originally on the Broken Front, Concession 1 of Aldborough Township. This farm was bought by her Father from the descendants of Elgin's first white settler, James Fleming. At her death, Mrs. Lena Colqhoun took charge and it was passed on to Mrs. Nellie Ashton and Mrs. Annie Long. and to further members of the Clachan Women's Institute.

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of special articles contributed by members of the Community and the photographs donated from the pioneer homes.

Katherine Johnston 1972-80

Bonnie Okalisan 1980-84

Lois Woolner 1984

W

N

#2 Highway.

Cashmere

Thames

Fleming Pioneer Cemetery

B.F.

WESTERN DIVISION

I

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

SS#10

II

Baptist Church
CLACHAN

III

McLellan Cemetery
Purcell

A

B

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

IV

Creek

Kintyre Church

Kintyre Oil field

V

E
5

S



Mrs. James Trestain

The First President of the
Clachan Women's Institute
founded in February, 1914.



1916

Clackam Institute.



1955

Members of Clachan Women's Institute of 1916 - picture
on previous page.

1st Row - Kathleen Downie (Trestain), Annie Long, Mrs. Hugh
Johnston, Eva Rice, Mary Johnston's Sister, Jessie
Purcell (Downie), Stella Long, Bessie McMillan (McLean)
Kate McLean, Tillie Lindsay

2nd Row - Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Henderson and daughter, Jessie
Colquhoun, Ether Johnston (Sharpe), Mrs. Colquhoun,
Mrs. Dewar, Mrs. Dougal McLean, Mrs. Mac Purcell,

3rd Row - Mrs. E. J. Purcell, Mrs. Jim Testain, Agnes Doyle,
Mrs. John Patterson, Mary Huffman (McLean), Mrs.
Stuart Wright, Lena Colquhoun (Ashton), Mrs. John
Allan, Frances Johnston, Cassie Campbell (McLarty),
Mrs. John Moore, Dollie McDonald, Isobell Doyle.

The children at the front are (left to right) Helen Doyle,
Pauline Johnston, Annie McLean, Margaret McLean, Garnet Moore,
and Jim Lindsay.

Members of the Clachan Women's Institute of 1955 - as
pictured on previous page are;

Kneeling - June Purcell and daughter Peggy, Betty Alderton,
Shirley Johnston, and daughters ^{Clifford and Jean} Patsy & Linda,
Norma Mann, Ruth Johnston, Florence McIntyre and
daughters Elaine, & Diane, Annie Long.

Standing - Mrs. James Price, Mrs. Delbert Patterson, Doris
McIntyre, Hilda Bateman, Alice Patton, Nellie Ashton,
Jessie Purcell, Tillie Lindsay, Hazel Scott, Mildred
Leitch, Dwayne Downie, Edith Johnston, Lena
Colquhoun, Annabell Bateman, Mrs. A. Bergey,
Becky Mann.



Hames Valley Red Cross Society
during World War I, 1914-1918.



Stamant Valley Red Cross Society
during World War I 1914-1918

Members of the Thames Valley Red Cross 1914-1918
(pictured on previous page)

1st Row Marybell Purcell
 Mrs. Phillip Kearns
 Minnie Campbell
 Mabel Patton

2nd Row Mrs. Dougal Purcell
 Mrs. Hillman
 Annie Taylor
 Fern Webster
 Mrs. John Doyle (in door of her home)
 Mrs. Alex McIntyre
 Mrs. John McIntyre
 unknown
 Cecilia Doyle
 Ella McIntyre (Webster)
 Eva King
 Mrs. Will Smith
 Emma Leitch
 Mrs. Alex Campbell (Charlie's Mother)
 Mrs. Dan Patterson

1914

1964



You are cordially invited to attend the

Fiftieth Anniversary

of the

Clachan Women's Institute

at Clachan Hall on

Monday, the tenth of February

nineteen hundred and sixty-four

at two-thirty p.m.

R.S.V.P.

Mrs. Harold Johnston, RR 1, Wardsville
President

Mrs. Ruth Johnston, RR 3, Bothwell
Secretary

members unable to attend were read by present secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ruth Johnston.

Mrs. Gordon Woolner read a paper on the history of the WI and Mrs. Mint Leitch read a memorial passage for late members. Mrs. E. B. Holmes, Bothwell, was guest soloist, singing, "How Long It Has Been." She was accompanied by Mrs. Robert Walker. The guest speaker was introduced by district director, Mrs. Garnet Long, and the speaker and soloist were thanked by Mrs. Neil McPhail.

A trio consisting of Mrs. Woolner, Mrs. William Wright and Mrs. Long, sang "My Land Is Your Land." During lunch, the three-tiered anniversary cake, baked by two WI members, was cut by Mrs. Campbell.

Original membership in the group was 41 and present membership is 25. In addition to district officers, guests were present from Crinan, West Lorne, Rodney and Bothwell.

and its accomplishments during the half century of its existence. One of its major projects has been the modernization of the Clachan Community Hall, and the building which is the recreation centre and meeting place for the surrounding area, is also the scene of the annual Hallowe'en party; of social evenings; card parties and dances, all sponsored by the W. I.

Donations of money are made to various worthwhile causes all through the year, and special remembrances are sent to the sick and bereaved of the community.

Mrs. Harold Johnston is president and Mrs. Ruth Johnston, the secretary-treasurer.

Vocal selections were given by a trio, composed of Mrs. Gordon Woolner, Mrs. Garnet Long and Mrs. Wright, while Mrs. Robert Walker, West Lorne, sang a solo following the memorial service.

Refreshments and a social hour concluded the memorable afternoon.

Mrs. Hazel Scott,

*Clachan W.I.
Press
Reporter.*

Clachan WI Receives Guests On Anniversary

CLACHAN — "A tribute to Adelaide Hoodless" was given by guest speaker, Mrs. J. R. Fulcher, St. Thomas, at the 50th anniversary celebration of Clachan Women's Institute in Clachan Hall. Six of the original members were present, and nine past presidents were presented with corsages.

District president, Mrs. Vermont Pow, replied to the president's welcome and complimented the group on past achievements. Mrs. Herb Jackson, district first vice-president; Mrs. Herb Parks, district secretary, and Mrs. Roy McNeil, representative to the provincial board, were also present.

The WI's first secretary-treasurer, Mrs. John Campbell, gave a few remarks, and a message from the first president, Mrs. James Greslatin, was brought by her daughter, Mrs. Roy Downie. Greetings from former members unable to attend were read by present secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ruth Johnston.

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Clachan WI Marks Golden Anniversary

Yesterday was a most important one for the 25 members of Clachan Branch of the Women's Institute, for their Branch was 50 years old. The day was marked in fitting style, with guests from visiting institutes, and the West Elgin District president and secretary also present.

Mrs. J. R. Fletcher of Middlemarch, past president of F. W. I. O. was guest speaker.

A highlight of the day's program was a history of Clachan Branch, covering its formation, and its accomplishments during the half century of its existence. One of its major projects has been the modernization of the Clachan Community Hall, and the building which is the recreation centre and meeting place for the surrounding area, is also the scene of the annual Hallowe'en party; of social evenings; card parties and dances, all sponsored by the W. I.

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50th ANNIVERSARY— Mrs. John W. Campbell, the Clachan WI's original secretary-treasurer, cuts the Cake at their 50th Anniversary celebration last week. Looking on are at left, Mrs. Harold Johnston, president, and Mrs. Ruth Johnston, secretary-treasurer. (Times Photo)



CHARTER MEMBERS OF CLACHAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE attended the 50th birthday party Monday afternoon in Clachan Hall. Of the 41 charter members only six ladies attended. They are, left to right: Mrs. Roy Downie, Bothwell, Mrs. Garnet Long, Clachan, who served eight years as

president on three different occasions, Mrs. John W. Campbell, the WI's original secretary-treasurer, Mrs. J. J. Johnston, Mrs. Francis Johnston, who was president in 1927, and Mrs. Tong of Port Stanley. Here Mrs. Campbell is seen cutting the anniversary fruit cake. Mercury-Sun photo.

In January 1914, Mr. Charles Buchanan, Elgin's agricultural representative, visited Clachan Hall to address farmers of the community and brought Miss Gilholm of Bright, to address ladies. Mrs. Trestain of the general store offered her home for the Ladies' meeting. Enough ladies were contacted to have a meeting that afternoon.

The date of February 10th saw the first meeting in the hall. Members of the Highgate Institute offered to help, which was gladly accepted.

Within a few weeks 41 ladies paid the 25¢ membership fee. Mrs. J. H. Trestain was chosen the first president, Miss Jessie Colquhoun the 1st Vice-president and Miss Cassie McLarty (Mrs. John W. Campbell) the Secretary-Treasurer. The date set for the monthly meetings was the fourth Thursday of each month, which has not changed down through the years. Mrs. Herb Meyer and Miss Colquhoun were appointed delegates to the first area convention in London that year. They learned much about the Red Cross as World War 1 had broken out and the Institute wanted to give its best efforts to bring comfort to soldiers and others who suffered because of the war.

Again in 1940 the W.I. repeated its effort and many quilts and much new clothing were sent away. In 1920 the horse and buggy was the popular mode of travel and as there was no shelter near the hall for Dobbin, the ladies decided a shed was very necessary. After canvassing the surrounding countryside, a shed was built and used for ten years. The automobile replaced the horse, so the shed was auctioned and sold for \$57. The money helped install

electricity in the hall and the gas lamps were taken down.

The rising generation has benefitted greatly because of the interest the W.I. had in the community. Public speaking contests were sponsored in public schools, starling hunts gave boys a little money and reduced the bird menace noticeably. Bird houses added interest to their skills and the annual Hallowe'en party still is a "must" for every child.

In 1952 Elgin's centennial year, the community spirit was very evident as old and young gathered at the Fleming Cemetery for a clean-up bee. There lies the first white settlers on the land the owner cleared by the River Thames - their highway.

The history of this brave man and his family was read at a memorial service at the cemetery during the centennial by Miss Belle Taylor whose father bought the farm from the Fleming family.

At the Purcell-McLean Cemetery trees were planted in memory of two local boys who gave their lives in World War 1. The Women's Institute sponsors memorial services there each Labour Day Sunday. Ploughing matches and cash crop days find the ladies ready to feed the hungry. Wedding and banquets are catered to and a booth at Rodney Fair for many years helped raise funds needed to carry on the good work of the organization.

Donations are given each year to worthy causes. The sick and bereaved are remembered with flowers and fruit. Also a foster child is sponsored in a foreign country. Also, 4-H Clubs have been sponsored during the last number of years.

The Hall has received much assistance in furnishings and upkeep as it is the social centre of the community and for miles

around. Social evenings when travel talks were given, family re-unions, showers, card parties and dances help liven the winters and build happy memories for all.

Through the efforts of the Institute, the kitchen was built in 1953, the stage remodelled in 1954, a rest room added in 1958 and benches replaced by stacking chairs in 1960. In 1963 the wood stoves were replaced by electric heaters. Members enjoy doing these things when they see their children, friends, and neighbours enjoy using them.

Much local talent has been developed through the social educational program of the Institute. Speakers and instructors provided by the Home Economics Service of the Department of Agriculture has kept everyone up to date on subjects of their choosing.

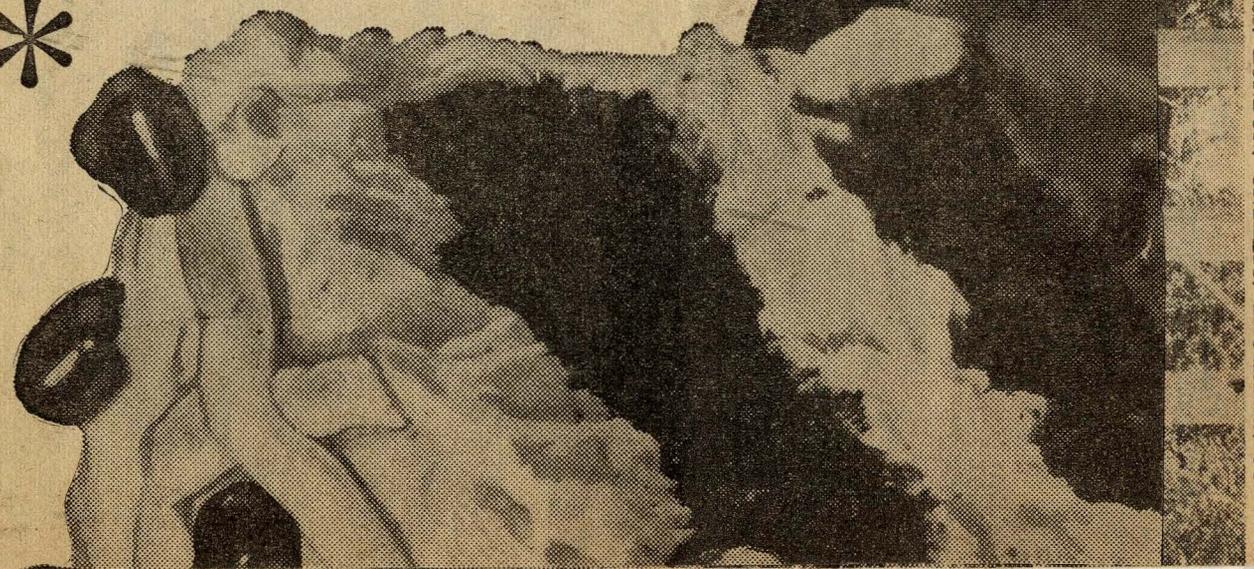
Since the Women's Institute was organized in 1914, the following have served as Presidents: Mrs. J. H. Trestain, Mrs. Herb Meyer, Mrs. P. L. Ashton, Mrs. John Wright, Mrs. A.E. Johnston, Mrs. George Woods, Mrs. R. J. Spence, Mrs. Angus Colquhoun, Miss Francis Johnston, Mrs. Albert Griffith, Mrs. H. H. Johnston, Mrs. Alma McWilliams, Mrs. Garnet Long, Mrs. Mint Leitch, Mrs. Edgar Ashton, Mrs. Alice Patton, Mrs. Gordon Woolner, Mrs. Harold Johnston, Mrs. James Purcell, Mrs. Gordon Tear, Mrs. Allan Woolner, Mrs. Elgin McIntyre, Mrs. Ronald Alderton, and Mrs. Clarence McWilliam our current president.

1 NOVEMBER.

atholicism.



VELVET Chocolate Cake



1/2 cup shortening (part butter)

2 teaspoons vanilla

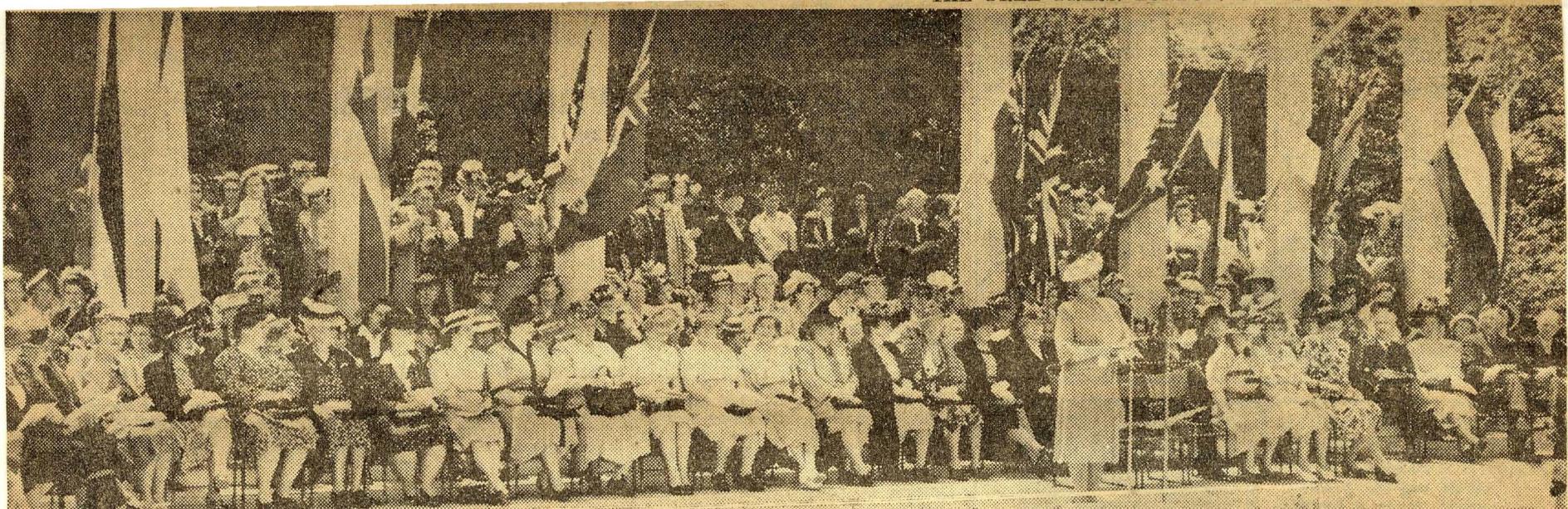
1/4 teaspoon lemon extract

1/4 cup granulated sugar

1 cup well beaten sour milk

1/3 cup granulated sugar

cocoa powder



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LARGEST WOMEN'S MEETING EVER HELD in Canada, that of the 50th anniversary of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, held at O.A.C., Guelph, yesterday, are shown in these photos. **TOP**—The colorfully decorated platform on which sat delegates to the conference from many of the provinces of Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and representatives of other Dominion and world-wide women's organizations. At the micro-

phone is Mrs. Hugh Summers, of Fonthill, president of the Ontario Provincial Board. **MIDDLE LEFT**—Gordon L. Rife, mayor of Guelph, who welcomed the 11,000 women in attendance. **MIDDLE CENTRE**—Col. George Drew, premier of Ontario, who brought greetings from the province, speaks to the ladies. Later he met hundreds of them at a reception. **MIDDLE RIGHT**—Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, minister of agriculture for Ontario, who brought greetings from his department. **BOTTOM LEFT**—Hon. Ray Lawson, lieutenant-

governor of Ontario and Mrs. Lawson, meet Mrs. O. H. Daley, (right), of Birr, in the reception line. **BOTTOM RIGHT**—Members of the North Yarmouth W.I., of Elgin County (St. Thomas), dressed in the costumes of 1897, pose, tin-type style, for the cameraman. Back row, left to right: Mrs. Colin McIntyre, Mrs. Fred Hill, Mrs. Norman Martin, Mrs. Albert Archibald, Mrs. William Anderson, and Mrs. Ezra Fahner. Front row: Mrs. Carl Hewson, (left), and Mrs. William Bodkin, (right). (Free Press Staff Photos.)

O.A.C. Becomes a Teeming City As 11,000 Women Attend Jubilee

BY JEAN BEBENSEE

GUELPH, June 18 — (Staff) — Eleven thousand Ontario farm women swarmed the Ontario Agricultural College grounds here today in the largest women's meeting this country has ever witnessed. They represented hundreds of Women's Institutes of the province celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Three special trains, 198 chartered buses, and seemingly endless individual automobiles carried the great throng of celebrants to Guelph.

Rejoicing in their heritage and through their leaders pledging themselves to strengthen homes and communities — so fighting for the peace of the world — the assembled thousands accepted golden jubilee greetings from Prime Minister George Drew, Hon. T. L. Kennedy, minister of agriculture; from leaders in the W. I. movement in Ontario, the other provinces of Canada, England and Wales, and New Zealand; and from other Dominion and world-wide women's organizations.

Lieutenant-Governor The Hon. Ray Lawson and Mrs. Lawson received the rural homemakers during the tea hour. Messages of congratulation were forthcoming from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister W. L. MacKenzie King, and from the Women's Institutes of South Africa.

Climax of the tremendous ceremonial celebration was a brilliantly-costumed pageant presented in the early evening on the great outdoor stage. Under the title "Let There Be Light" it chronicled the history of the Women's Institutes through 50 years, together with their confidence and vision for the future.

Weather favored the historic meeting. The city, the college welcomed the women. The sun beamed from a blue sky clouded only with picturesque puffiness, and the O.A.C. grounds in all their spring loveliness formed the setting ideal for a farm women's celebration.

Macdonald Institute, the brain child of Mrs. John Hoodless of Stoney Creek, the founder of the W. I., expertly handled the crowd in a picnic lunch, though it had prepared for a mere 6,000. Two hundred chosen institute guests were entertained at a dinner in the Administration Building cafeteria in the evening.

Speakers were unanimous in their praise of the contribution of the W.I. to peace and to the welfare of Ontario. They saw the organization and others of its kind paving the way to universal understanding and happiness. They called upon it to give leadership.

"At a time when this country is going to grow faster than ever before — and it is — the need for improved standards and the need for happiness in rural areas assumes national importance," said Col. Drew.

"No country can raise itself much above the level of happiness we can establish in agricultural areas. The prosperity of the country is proportionate to the prosperity of its farm people," he said.

He commented that in few places in the world today could such a mass gathering be attempted with food and transportation rationing so rigidly controlled. "We are a very fortunate people," said the premier.

He commended the influence of the institutes in laying fine foundations for Canada, and in making rural life attractive.

Mrs. Hugh Summers, Fonthill, president of the F.W.I.O., presided over the gathering. She expressed pride in the "mighty stream of institutes," and in "an organization which so many women found worthy of support." She commended the contribution to the betterment of home and community life, and the influence on national and international life. She asked for humility in the face of the wisdom of the

first leaders of the W.I., and made a plea for greater respect and understanding among the women who will continue the work in a "worthwhile future."

Mayor Gordon L. Rife, welcoming the women to Guelph, rated the W.I. as "the greatest women's organization in the world." He credited its success to its support of the democratic way of life.

W. R. Reek, new president of O.A.C., considered the influence of the W.I. "immeasurable." Its unselfishness and its ability to stand upon its own feet, made it an effective weapon for peace.

"No organization means as much to the character and welfare of this province as the Women's Institute," Col. Kennedy stated. "Nothing we can say can repay you. We have a warm spot in our heart for the work you are doing. We can only say 'Thank you.'"

"This is a sight anyone sitting on this platform today will never forget." The sight, he said, surpassed the wildest dreams of 50 years ago, and portended the good to be done in the next 50 years, likewise beyond the scope of dreams.

"The character of the women who make up the Women's Institute is such that the cause of religion can never be far from the Institute's program. I express the gratitude of all who are interested in church work for its influence on moral life," said Chancellor G. Gilmour of McMaster University, representing the Dominion Council of Churches. He spoke of the stand for moral correctness, loyalty to high principles, and the contribution to the banishment of fear in health programs.

Miss Anna P. Lewis, director of the Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service, saw the W. I. as a force for democratic citizenship. She pointed out that this year of celebration also marks the 5th year of service to women of the Department of Agriculture.

Mrs. Cameron Dow, past president of the F.W.I.C., asked the women to understand the forms of government and to be a "thorn in the flesh," to representatives in government to improve social conditions. She mentioned jail conditions in particular.

Mrs. A. E. Walker, past provincial and Dominion president, represented the Stoney Creek institute, mother of all others throughout the world. She recommended that each branch adopt one overseas institute as a friend.

Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen, first government lecturer appointed by the Department of Agriculture, now aged 81, reminisced humorously, asking for tolerance in outlook, and in acceptance of innovations. She suggested the women make their minds masters of their bodies.

Advertisements of farm life as a way of life in face of growing industrialism was advocated by Mrs. F. G. Miller of Hamilton, past president of the Provincial Council of Women, Miss Mary A. Clarke, inspector of home economics of the Department of Education, and Mrs. Guy Skinner of Michigan, the former Bess McDermid, represented the earlier superintendents of the W. I. Mrs. G. Conant, Ontario Commissioner of the Girl Guides, brought greetings from that organization.

Lady Lonsley Taylor spoke on behalf of the National Federation of Women's Institutes of England and Wales, and Miss Amy Kane represented the W. I. of New Zealand. Mrs. W. G. Fenton of Michigan brought congratulations from a similar American organization.

Representatives from the provinces were as follows: Mrs. S. E. Cumow, British Columbia; Mrs. E. E. Morton, Alberta; Mrs. Robert Palmer, Manitoba; Mrs. W. E. Smallman, Quebec; Mrs. Elton Smith, Nova Scotia; Mrs. Julian Herring, Prince Edward Island, Mrs. J. H. McCulloch, Brampton. secretaries read messages from Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, and from the Associated Countrywomen of the World.

The pageant was under the direction of Brownlow Card of Toronto, with script by Patricia Card. Horace Lapp's orchestra provided the music.

Mrs. Dow displayed a silver cup won by the Isley-Zion Institute, Ontario, in the Dominion essay competition. Similar cups were won by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for village histories and a handbag respectively. They are given by Lady Tweedsmuir.

Thirteen charter members of the Stoney Creek Institute were given an ovation.

At the dinner, chaired by Mrs. Summers, and arranged by Mrs. G. Gordon Maynard, secretary of the committee and a member of the board, toast to the F. W. I. O. and the F. W. I. C. was proposed by Mrs. Reek and answered by Mrs. E. A. Duke, past provincial president. Mrs. H. R. McCrie, a past board member, proposed the toast to the Department of Agriculture, responded to by Deputy Minister C. D. Graham.

Mrs. L. MacEwen, board member, toasted distinguished guests. The reply was made by Mrs. L. Millen, provincial president of

the I.O.D.E. Mrs. J. O. Arrow-smith, provincial president of the Home and School Association paid tribute to the A.C.W.W., which was answered by Mrs. G. Hunt of England, Mrs. Maynard toasted charter members. One of them, Mrs. George Glidden, replied. Appreciation was voted by Mrs. O. W. Rolph, board director.

52,500 Slices Feed Multitude

Fifty-two thousand, five hundred one-slice sandwiches, by count, plus an unknown number of smaller fancy sandwiches, were prepared by Macdonald Institute yesterday to feed the 11,000.

Paper bags containing five sandwiches, wax-paper wrapped, were handed out along with ice cream cups and coffee to 10,500 Women's Institute members on the O.A.C. grounds at tea time. This number does not include parties of early eaters, and a few score who had tea with Lieut.-Gov. and Mrs. Ray Lawson (the fancy sandwiches.) Nor does it include the non-eaters, those who lacked the courage to queue. All were celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

The Federated Women's



Institutes of Ontario

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph

June 18th, 1947



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

IT IS a great pleasure to me to send greetings and congratulations to the Members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario on the occasion of their Fiftieth Anniversary celebration, with all my good wishes for a happy and useful future.

The opening of Stoney Creek Women's Institute in 1897 is a landmark in the history of rural life, and I am glad to send this message of goodwill because I know of the thankfulness of my fellow Members for their Institutes. Besides those in Great Britain, I have lately seen Members in South Africa and Rhodesia, enjoying and valuing the opportunities for service, mutual help, education and fun which Membership brings and which we owe to the Stoney Creek women, 50 years ago.

My thoughts are with you on this great day, and I wish each one of you happiness and prosperity.

Elizabeth R

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Hugh Summers, Fonthill.
Mrs. H. R. McCrie, R.R. 3, Sarnia.
Mrs. Ernest Duke, Port Carling.
Mrs. Gordon Maynard, Unionville.

Miss Anna P. Lewis, Toronto.
Mrs. J. K. Kelly, Almonte.
Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, Coldwater.
Mrs. A. E. Walker, Hamilton.



Members of Provincial Board

1946-1947.

Honorary Presidents: Miss Anna P. Lewis, Toronto.
Mrs. Clarence Holmes, R.R. 3, Belleville.

President: Mrs. Hugh Summers, R.R. 1, Fonthill.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. John McCulloch, R.R. 2, Brampton.

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. L. A. McEwen, Russell.

Mrs. F. L. McDougall, R.R. 4, Thamesville.

Mrs. B. F. Daniels, Fort William.

DIRECTORS ON THE EXECUTIVE

Mrs. Ben James, R.R. 1, Clayton.

Mrs. William McClure, R.R. 2, Brampton.

Mrs. O. W. Rolph, Orono.

Mrs. Harry L. Wood, Brantford.

Mrs. Ross Dodds, Clute.

ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS

Mrs. S. L. Heath, Portland.

Mrs. Arnold Mitchell, R.R. 6, Belleville.

Mrs. W. A. McGregor, Desboro.

Mrs. Fred Boulton, R.R. 2, Elora.

Mrs. Norval Smith, Port Elgin.

Mrs. Roy Goodfellow, Stroud.

Mrs. Lyle Shaver, R.R. 1, Millgrove.

Mrs. Bert Litt, Sebringville.

Mrs. James Lotan, Appin.

Mrs. Aylmer Campbell, Huntsville.

Mrs. P. W. Kent, Richard's Landing.

Mrs. M. Fisher, R.R. 1, Emo.

Miss Orphie Orr, R.R. 2, Maple.

Miss Betty Ruddell, R.R. 2, Georgetown.

Greetings

A Message from

The Prime Minister of Canada

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the original Women's Institute in Canada will provide an occasion for many messages of greeting, and of tribute to the memory and example of the women of Stoney Creek who were the pioneers of a movement which has extended throughout the world.

The value of the work of Women's Institutes in the rural life of our country during half a century cannot be over-estimated. It must be a satisfaction to all officers and members of Women's Institutes today to reflect upon the devoted efforts of fifty years, and upon the notable advances in public and community welfare which Institute activity has made possible. I do not doubt that from this satisfaction will come a renewed incentive to achieve still greater benefits for the homes of Canada through the united efforts of interested homemakers.

I count it a privilege to join in extending greetings to all those who will assemble at Guelph to mark this fiftieth anniversary. I send every good wish for continued opportunities of service to the community throughout the second fifty years of Women's Institutes in Canada.

W. L. Mackenzie King

A Message from

The Prime Minister of Ontario

It gives me much pleasure to extend hearty greetings to the members of the Women's Institutes of Ontario who are attending the fiftieth anniversary commemoration being held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

The activities of the various Women's Institutes throughout Ontario are well known to us all. Those who have taken part in this work throughout the years have done much toward the improvement and advancement of rural and in some instances urban home life. While your membership now totals over 33,000, it is to be hoped your influence will continue to grow and expand in the interests of better home life.

With best wishes for a successful commemoration and with warm regards, believe me,

George Drew

A Message from

The Ontario Minister of Agriculture

Fifty years the Women's Institutes of Ontario have been making a noteworthy contribution to the betterment of rural life and living. Many of the amenities of life which have been introduced into our farming communities are a direct result of the persistent efforts of the clear-thinking women who, down through the years, have given leadership to the Women's Institute movement. Better schools, better health services, better community facilities have been developed because there were Women's Institutes to see the need for them and work unceasingly for them. On this 50th Anniversary, you can look back to half a century of achievement. Now you face the future, and must look forward to doing even greater things than are recorded in the treasured history of the past. I congratulate you all on fifty years of work well done, and wish for you further progress towards the attainment of all your aims and objectives.

Thomas L. Kennedy

Pioneers of Institute History



MRS. ADELAIDE HOODLESS
Founder of the Women's Institutes



SQUIRES HALL, STONEY CREEK
Where the First Women's Institute was Organized

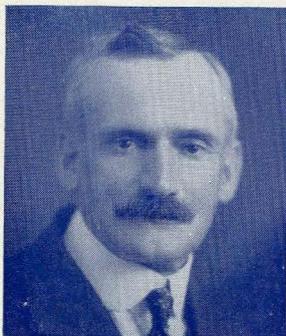
How the Institutes Began

In Squires Hall, at Stoney Creek, Ontario, pictured above, the first Women's Institute was born on February 19th, 1897.

Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, to the left, was instrumental in organizing this pioneer Institute, from which has grown the great organization that is now celebrating its Fiftieth Anniversary.

Mr. Erland Lee co-operated with Mrs. Hoodless in planning for the first meeting at which the Women's Institute was organized. Senator E. D. Smith, along with Major Carpenter and Mr. Lee, assisted the committee of ladies in formulating the original constitution and by-laws.

Mrs. E. D. Smith was the first President, Miss M. Nash the first Secretary and Mrs. J. H. McNeilly the first Treasurer of the Mother Institute at Stoney Creek.



MR. ERLAND LEE



MAJOR CARPENTER



SENATOR E. D. SMITH



MRS. E. D. SMITH



MISS M. NASH



MRS. J. H. MCNEILLY

04

Presidents of The F.W.I.O.



MRS. WILLIAM TODD
1919-1920



MRS. G. EDWARDS
1920-1924



MRS. FIELD ROBERTSON
1924-1927



MRS. J. W. STONE
1927-1929



MRS. A. E. WALKER
1929-1932



MRS. R. B. COLLOTON
1932-1935



MRS. T. J. MCDOWELL
1935-1939



MRS. ERNEST DUKE
1939-1942



MRS. CLARENCE HOLMES
1942-1944



MRS. HUGH SUMMERS
1944-1947

On this page, tribute is paid to the ten women who have occupied the presidency of the F.W.I.O., and who, since its inception, have given it inspired leadership.

Below are the surviving charter members of the First Institute at Stoney Creek, photographed at the Fiftieth Anniversary Banquet on February 19, 1947. *Back row, left to right:* Mrs. H. P. Van Wagner, Mrs. McKinley Mordon, Mrs. G. D. Conant, daughter of the first president, Mrs. B. E. Thompson, Mrs. George Miller, Mrs. Murray Neil. *Seated, left to right:* Mrs. J. B. Smith, Mrs. John Budge, Mrs. J. B. Davis, Mrs. G. A. Glidden, Mrs. Selby Corman and Mrs. Walter Ptolemy.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE FIRST INSTITUTE



Programme

Chairman—Mrs. Hugh Summers, President, Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

1.30 P.M.—GOD SAVE THE KING.

WELCOME	Mrs. Hugh Summers.
GREETINGS FROM THE DOMINION	
GREETINGS FROM THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	Hon. George A. Drew, Prime Minister of Ontario.
WELCOME	His Worship Mayor Gordon L. Rife, City of Guelph.
GREETINGS FROM THE ONTARIO DEPART- MENT OF AGRICULTURE	Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario.
MUSIC	Mr. Colin Bray.
ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE	Mr. W. R. Reek, Acting President.
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE BRANCH AND HOME ECONOMICS SERVICE	Miss Anna P. Lewis, Director.
FEDERATED WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF CANADA	
PROVINCIAL INSTITUTES ACROSS CANADA	
British Columbia	
Alberta	
Saskatchewan	
Manitoba	
Quebec	
New Brunswick	
Nova Scotia	
Prince Edward Island	
OUR MOTHER INSTITUTE	Mrs. A. E. Walker.
OUR FIRST GOVERNMENT LECTURER	Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen.
MUSIC	Mr. Colin Bray.
DOMINION COUNCIL OF CHURCHES	Chancellor G. Gilmour, M.A., D.D. McMaster University.
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS	
FORMER SUPERINTENDENTS	Miss Mary A. Clarke. Mrs. Guy Skinner.

Programme

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF
ENGLAND AND WALES

ASSOCIATED COUNTRYWOMEN OF THE WORLD

3.30 P.M. AFTERNOON TEA AND RECEPTION

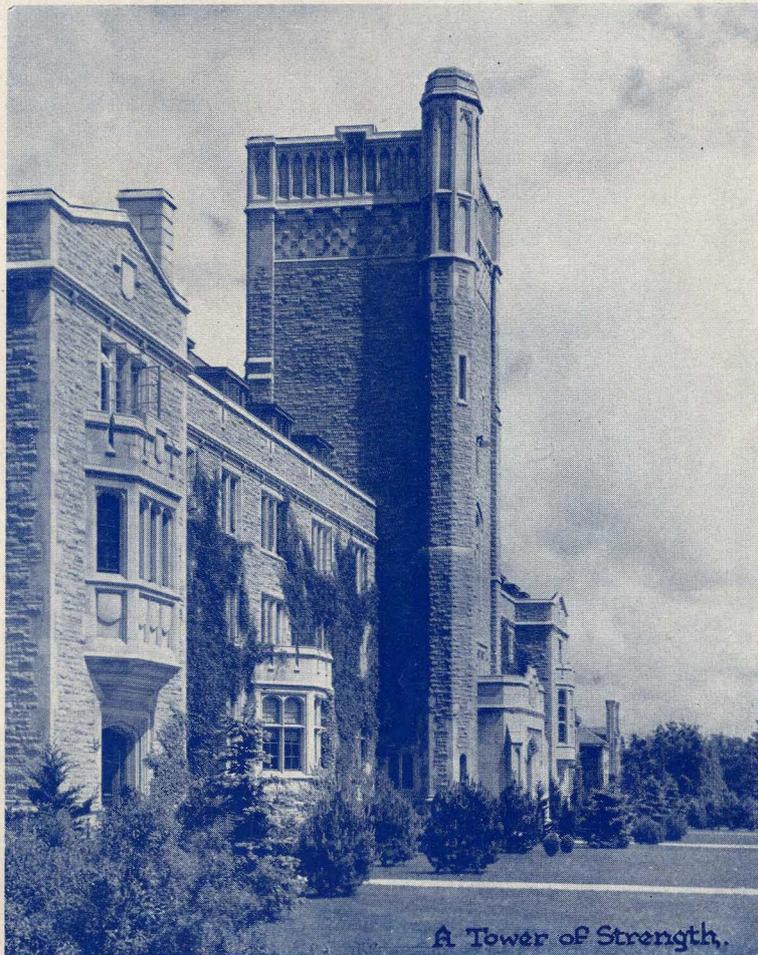
The Hon. Ray Lawson, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, will be present.

5.30 P.M. HISTORICAL PAGEANT—"LET THERE BE LIGHT."

Produced under the Direction of Mr. Brownlow Card.

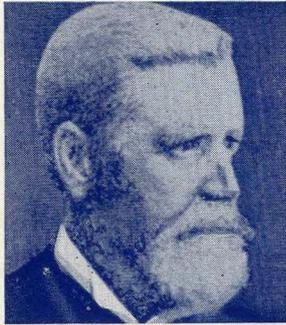
Music by Horace Lapp's Orchestra.

Pageant Script by Patricia Card.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH
Where the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Women's Institutes of Ontario
is being held, June 18th, 1947.

Superintendents Through The Years



MR. J. I. HODSON
1897-1899



DR. G. C. CREELMAN
1899-1904



MR. G. A. PUTNAM
1904-1934



MISS M. McDERMAND
1934-1939



MISS MARY A. CLARKE
1939-1945



MISS ANNA P. LEWIS
1945-

Through the years much of the strength of the Women's Institute movement has been derived from the splendid leadership given by those who have been Superintendents of the Institutes Branch. In the early days, the Women's Institutes came under the Farmers' Institute Branch, and Mr. Hodson and Dr. Creelman were superintendents of that Branch. Mr. Putnam was the first of the Superintendents of the Women's Institute Branch, and he was followed by Miss M. McDermand, Miss Mary A. Clarke and the present incumbent of the office, Miss Anna P. Lewis, all of whom are shown on this page.

Mrs. Cameron Dow has given splendid leadership to the Dominion movement as President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen was the first lecturer for Women's Institutes appointed by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, and rendered great service in building the organization in its early days.

Macdonald Institute, shown below, came into being as a women's department of the O.A.C. through the efforts of the Women's Institutes and the keen interest of Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, who persuaded Sir William Macdonald to make a grant of \$200,000 towards its establishment.



MRS. CAMERON DOW



JUDGE EMILY MURPHY



MRS. LAURA ROSE STEPHEN

Judge Emily Murphy, one of the outstanding women of Canadian life, was the first President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, which came into being in the year 1919.



MACDONALD INSTITUTE

Historical Pageant: "Let There Be Light"

Produced under the Direction of Mr. Brownlow Card. Music by Horace Lapp's Orchestra, through the courtesy of The T. Eaton Co. Limited, Toronto. Pageant Script by Patricia Card.

OPENING: Entry of Herald and Narrators, and of representatives of Canada and the Nine Provinces. Entry of the Spirit of Light, with appropriate music.

EPISODE 1: Let there be light. A symbolical episode portraying the search of mankind for the World. The Angels sing proclaiming the light, and the Wise men and Shepherds of old symbolize the eternal seeking for that Light. The episode announces Ontario's Gift to the Women of the World.

EPISODE 2: *Out of tragedy comes the Light.* Here we see Mrs. John Hoodless, founder of Women's Institutes, in sorrow over the death of her child due to her own lack of knowledge of food and nutrition. Out of the tragedy in her life came her determination to save the children of other mothers from a similar fate, a determination to carry the Light to rural women and to dedicate her life to that task.

EPISODE 3: *The Women of Canada salute the Founder of Women's Institutes.* Here is depicted the story of how a woman saw the light, and founded an organization that is today respected and appreciated throughout the world. Her inspiration is found in the "Mary Stewart Collect" which provides the central theme of this episode.

EPISODE 4: *The Light is Carried to the Farmers' Institutes.* A Farmers' Institute Convention is being held at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, and Mrs. Hoodless is there as one of the speakers. In an impassioned plea for education for rural women in the basic principles of homemaking, Mrs. Hoodless points to the home as the foundation of the nation. She makes a plea for the establishment of home economics and household science classes in the rural schools, and for an education that will fit women for their tasks as the home-builders of the nation and the mothers of the future. Her message makes a deep impression on Mr. Erland Lee, of Stoney Creek, who is seen discussing the subject with Mrs. Hoodless as the scene closes.

EPISODE 5: The first Women's Institute Meeting at Stoney Creek, February 19, 1897.

Mrs. Hoodless' talk to the Farmers' Institute at Guelph has borne fruit. Mr. Lee has gone back to his own community, and has arranged for a meeting of the women there to hear Mrs. Hoodless' ideas for the formation of an organization of rural women. Thirty-five women were expected to attend the meeting, but there were 101 present, along with Mr. Lee, when the gathering assembled in Squires' Hall, Stoney Creek. Here we see the women who were the leaders in that first of all Women's Institutes, and we hear Mrs. Hoodless give the address which resulted in its organization.

EPISODE 6: *Light has come to the rural areas,—1899.* The Women's Institutes have become a reality, and the torch taken up by Mrs. Hoodless is being passed on to the women of rural Ontario. Other sections of the Province are joining in the movement, and are being shown the light which is destined to brighten their homes and their lives.

EPISODE 7: *The Founding of the Macdonald Institute.* Mrs. Hoodless continues her work of seeking more and more education in homemaking for the rural women. She convinces the Women's Institutes that just as the men have the Ontario Agricultural College for their education in agriculture, so the women should have a sister institution allied with it at Guelph, to train leaders to go out into the Province

as the teachers of the women on the farms. The Women's Institutes sponsor the project with enthusiasm, but more tangible assistance is required. Mrs. Hoodless goes to see Sir William Macdonald, of Montreal, and tells her story in so persuasive a manner that he makes a donation of \$200,000 for the building of the Macdonald Institute at Guelph.

EPISODE 8: *The Light Spreads Through Ontario and Across Canada.* With the stream of trained specialists coming from the Macdonald Institute, the work which Mrs. Hoodless visualized as the great task of the Women's Institutes is going ahead by leaps and bounds. We see the teachers, the dietitians, the laboratory workers, the homemakers and the brides who will be the mothers of the future following the Light.

EPISODE 9: *For Home and Country.* The Ontario Department of Agriculture sends out its first lecturer and organizer to serve the women of the rural districts—Miss Laura Rose. Miss Rose has a vision of what the Institutes can mean to the homes and to the nation, and suggests the motto "For Home and Country" for the organization. At last Light is entering the homes of rural Ontario.

EPISODE 10: *Ontario Leads the Way.* The Women's Institutes of Ontario have grown to such proportions that they need some co-ordinating and unifying body. So we see the birth of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. The seed that has been well planted in Ontario takes root in the other Provinces, and one by one they come forward to take their place in a united national body, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

EPISODE 11: *The Light Crosses the Ocean.* 1914 brings war to the Empire. In England the outbreak of the war creates a need for combined effort among countrywomen, particularly in connection with the production and conservation of food. Under the leadership of Mrs. Alfred Watt, the Light was carried to England and Women's Institutes were formed there. At the same time, under the fine leadership of Miss Emily Guest, Institutes spread through Scotland.

EPISODE 12: Tributes to the work of the Institutes come from the Empire's leaders—From Prime Minister Baldwin, from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and His Majesty King George VI.

EPISODE 13: Through the Years—The Associated Countrywomen of the World. From Canada and Britain the torch is carried throughout the world. In Europe, in Asia, and wherever there are rural women to be shown the Light, Institutes come into being. Here we see the coming in of the many countries, and have an expression of the ideals and achievements of Women's Institutes down through the years. The nations assemble to salute Canada, the founder of Women's Institutes.

EPISODE 14: *We Face the Future.* The Women's Institutes Treasure the Past and Face the Future. Youth Carries On! Miss Anna Lewis, Director of the Women's Institutes Branch, looks forward to the years ahead, and gives a vision of what is yet to be. Linked with the past, through Mrs. Hoodless and with the present, through Mrs. Summers, F.W.I.O. President, the whole company assembles to hear a 50th Anniversary message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and "The Lord's Prayer" and our National Anthem bring the pageant to a triumphant conclusion.

Fifty years of honourable history, fifty years of great achievement, lie behind the Women's Institutes of Ontario. When Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless saw the light in 1896, and was instrumental in the organization of the first Women's Institute at that historic meeting at Stoney Creek on February 19, 1897, she little realized that in the next fifty years that light would be carried throughout Ontario, across Canada, and to all parts of the world. Truly she lit a torch which has been handed on to those who came after, and is burning today with a truer, clearer flame than ever before.

How closely the Women's Institutes have adhered to the original ideas of the founder is shown by a study of the aims and objects set out in the first Constitution, and the objects as they are listed today. The original constitution gives the objects as follows, with the sections that have been added since then shown in brackets;

"The object of this Institute shall be to promote that knowledge of Household Science which shall lead to the improvement in household architecture, with special understanding of the economic and hygienic value of foods and fuels; and to a more scientific care (and training) of children with a view to raising the general standard of health (and morals) of our people; (and the consideration of any problem or the carrying on of any line of work, which has as its object the uplift of the home or the betterment of conditions surrounding community life)."

These original objects have been the basis of the many achievements which stand to the credit of the Women's Institutes. They have been carried out through the years under six divisions or branches which were set up in the original constitution, and which today find their counterpart in the standing committees of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, as follows:—(1) Domestic Economy; (2) Architecture, with special reference to Sanitation, Light, Heat, etc.; (3) Physiology, Hygiene, Medicine, Calisthenics, etc.; (4) Floriculture and Horticulture; (5) Music and Art; (6) Literature and Sociology, Education and Legislation.

Everywhere they have been established, Women's Institutes have sought to attain the goals established at their inception. Through the special courses, arranged and provided by the Women's Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture, standards of homemaking have been improved to an immeasurable degree, and the basic principles of sound nutrition, efficient homemaking, care of children, have been made available to rural women.

What is perhaps more important has been the impact of Women's Institutes on their own communities in creating new ideals of community living. Women have learned to work together in harmony for the betterment of their own com-

munities, and have, by their co-operative efforts, exercised a great influence on many phases of legislation affecting rural living. The Institutes have been leaders in constructive effort for the improvement of rural schools and rural education, and have succeeded in bringing to the rural children a large measure of equality in educational opportunities with those enjoyed by urban children. Their greatest contribution in the field of education, however, was the effort, led by Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, which brought about the establishment of Macdonald Institute as an integral part of the Ontario Agricultural College, opening to young women great fields of opportunity for specialized training in household science.

In the field of improvement of public health services for rural communities, the Women's Institute were strong pioneers and inspired much of the legislation which has provided medical and public health nursing services in the rural areas.

Through two world wars, the Women's Institutes rendered yeoman service in providing for the needs of those in the armed forces, and giving assistance to the peoples of countries which suffered from the ravages of war. Every good cause was given unstinted support and aid, and in the Second World War, in particular, the Women's Institutes contributed magnificently to meeting the needs of the sorely pressed people of Britain. That work of caring for war victims is still going on, and the Canadian Red Cross Society has no stronger supporters than the women of the Institutes.

But above all, the Women's Institutes have given to our rural women a progressive outlook, a sense of their responsibility for building a better community, a better province, and a better world, and a realization that on them, the homemakers of the nation, depends the type of citizenship we are going to have in Canada in the years that lie ahead. The Women's Institutes have been a great spiritual force for making, not only better homes, but a brighter and happier world.

These 50 years have been years of great achievement and sound progress. Now the Women's Institutes face the future. Facing them is a challenge that they go forward, inspired by the knowledge of what has been accomplished in the past and realizing that still greater tasks lie ahead to be undertaken and carried on to a successful conclusion. United by their determination to play their part in building better homes, happier communities and a sounder national life, Women's Institutes accept the challenge to face the future, and with the new inspiration derived from this 50th Anniversary Celebration, stand ready to carry on in the spirit of those who first saw the light, and to hand down to those who come after them a torch that will make the world a brighter place for womanhood the world over.

Acknowledgment

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario hereby express their sincere thanks to The T. Eaton Co. Limited, Toronto, for its splendid contribution to the success of our 50th Anniversary Celebration. We appreciate its generosity in providing these Souvenir Programmes and also the Music for the Pageant.

MILDRED SUMMERS,
President,

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.



Clachan Women's Institute, 1914-64

February 1914 — 1964

The Clachan Branch of the Women's Institute has reached its Fiftieth Birthday. Looking back over the years we realize the welfare of the community and even the world at

large has benefited immeasurably by the efforts of the farm women who have belonged to it down through

the years. In January of 1914, Mr. Charles Buchanan, the Agricultural Representative of Elgin County, came to Clachan Hall to address the farmers of the community and brought along Miss Gilholm, of Bright, to address any ladies present. Mrs. Trestain at the General Store was approached and offered her home for the ladies meeting. She had no advance notice and was putting her fifth child down for her afternoon nap. The telephone line had invaded the countryside the previous year so a few local calls brought enough ladies together and Miss Gilholm suggested the organizing of a Women's Institute. The date of Feb. 10th was appointed for the first meeting in the Hall. Members of Highgate Institute offered to help and were gladly accepted. Within a few weeks 41 ladies paid the 25-cent membership fee. Mrs. J. H. Trestain was chosen as the first President, Miss Jessie Colquhoun as the first Vice-President, and Miss Cassie McLarty (now Mrs. J. W. Campbell) as the Sec'y-Treas. The date set for the monthly meeting was the 4th Thursday in each month and which has not been changed through the years.

Mrs. Herb. Meyer and Miss Jessie Colquhoun were the appointed delegates to the first Area Convention in London that year. They learned much about the Red Cross work that we were now engaged in as World War I had broken out and we wanted to give our best efforts to bring comforts to our soldiers and others who suffered because of it. Again in 1940 we repeated our effort and many quilts and new clothing were sent away.

In 1920 the horse and buggy was the popular mode of travel and as there was no shelter near the Hall for Dobbin, the ladies decided a shed was very necessary. After canvassing the surrounding countryside a shed was built and used for nearly 10 years. The automobile had now replaced the horse as transportation and the sheds were sold by auction for \$57. This money helped install electricity in the Hall and the gas lamps came down.

The rising generation has benefited much through the interests of the ladies. Speaking contests were held in the Public Schools, stalling hunts gave the boys a little pocket money and reduced the bird menace noticeably, bird houses added interest to their skills, and the annual Hallowe'en Party still is a "must" to every child.

In 1952, Elgin's Centennial Year, the community spirit was very evident as old and young gathered at the Fleming Cemetery for a "clean-up bee." Here lies Elgin's first white settler on the land he had cleared

by the River Thames - their highway. The history of this brave man and his family was read by Miss Belle Taylor whose father had bought that farm from the Fleming family. At the close of the Memorial Service, everyone enjoyed lunch in the valley nearby, in the twilight.

At the Purcell - McLean Cemetery, trees were planted in memory of two local boys who gave their lives in World War I. The Women's Institute sponsor a Memorial Service each Labor Day Sunday there.

Ploughing matches and Cash Crop Days find the ladies ready to feed the hungry. Weddings and banquets are catered to and a booth each year at Rodney Fair helps to raise the funds needed to carry on the good work.

Donations are given each year to worthy causes. The sick and bereaved are remembered with flowers and fruit. Our hall has received much help in furnishings and upkeep as it is the social centre of the community and for miles around.

Social evenings when travel talks and pictures were given, family reunions, showers, card parties and dances help liven the winters and build happy memories for all.

Through the efforts of the Institute the kitchen was built in 1953, the stage remodelled in 1954, a rest room added in 1958, and the benches replaced by stacking chairs in 1960. We enjoy doing these things as we see our children, friends and neighbors enjoy using them.

Much local talent has been developed through the social and educative program of the Institute. Speakers and instructors provided by the Home Economics Service of the Department of Agriculture kept us up to date in any subject of our choosing.

At present we have a membership of 25. Since the Clachan Women's Institute was organized in 1914, the following have served as President:

- Mrs. J. H. Trestain
- Mrs. Herb. Meyer
- Mrs. P. L. Ashton
- Mrs. John Wright
- Mrs. A. E. Johnston
- Mrs. George Woods
- Mrs. R. J. Spence
- Mrs. Angus Colquhoun
- Miss Frances Johnston
- Mrs. Albert Griffith
- Mrs. H. H. Johnston
- Mrs. Alma McWilliams

- Mrs. Garnet Long
- Mrs. Mint Leitch
- Mrs. Edgar Ashton
- Mrs. Alice Patton
- Mrs. Gordon Woolner
- Mrs. Harold Johnston

Not many of the original members are left to celebrate this happy time with us. But for today, tomorrow and the years ahead, we hope the Women's Institute continues to be the source of good will and neighborliness it has been these last fifty years.

- Mrs. Garnet Long,
- Mrs. Gordon Woolner

W. J. Millinery Class . Feb. 1960

at Clachan Hall.

Teacher - Mrs. Mulligan, Toronto



Row I Pat Hatfield, Doris Mc Intyre

Row II Mary Attridge, Mrs. Mulligan, Annie Long, Ruth Johnston, Nancy Taylor

Row III Eva Bergy, Mrs. Carl McLean, Pauline Doyle, Edith Johnston

Row IV Mrs. George Boyle, Alice Patton
Noirine Woolner, Nellie Ashton

Feb. 10, 1964.



CLACHAN WI IS 50 YEARS OLD—Three charter members of Clachan Women's Institute were present yesterday when the branch marked its 50th anniversary. A birthday party, held in the community hall, was attended by members of neighboring institutes. A special guest was Mrs. Vermont Pow, president of West Elgin District Women's Institute. Shown, left to right, front row, are Mrs. Garnet Long, Clachan,

charter member, past president and presently a director; Miss Frances Johnston, Bothwell, charter member and a past president. Back row, left to right, Mrs. Harold Johnston, president of Clachan W. I.; Mrs. Ruth Johnston, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Pow; Mrs. John W. Campbell, charter member and first secretary-treasurer; Mrs. J. R. Futcher, R. R. 1, St. Thomas, guest speaker and past F. W. I. O. president.—(T.-J. Photo)



CLACHAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE held a tea last Thursday afternoon and evening to raise money for the Elgin Cancer Society. The tea was held in the Community Hall with a crowd of over 200 women attending from all over the county. Six hundred and twenty-eight dollars were raised to help the Society continue its good works among cancer patients in the

county. Seated is Mrs. Roy McNeil, Dutton, district representative on the provincial board of the Women's Institute. Standing are: Mrs. Earl Morden, Mrs. Roy Alderton, Mrs. Neil McPhail, Mrs. Allan Woolner, Mrs. Nelson Johnston, Mrs. J. Donald Johnston, Mrs. James Purcell, president of the Institute, Mrs. Donald Wright and Mrs. John Purcell.

MEMBERS OF CLACHAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE celebrated its 60th Anniversary in February, 1974.



Pictured with the Anniversary Cake are Mrs. Elgin McIntyre - Sec. Treas. Mrs. Clarence McWilliam - President Mrs. Garnet Long - Charter Member Standing behind is Mrs. Mary Gow - Elgin West District President.



Members of Clachan Women's Institute present were; seated Mrs. Elgin McIntyre - Sec. Treas. Mrs. Clarence McWilliam - Pres. Mrs. Garnet Long, Mrs. Osborne Doyle.

Standing 1st Row - Mrs. Gordon Woolner, Mrs. John Fleming, Mrs. Neil McPhail, Mrs. J. Donald Johnston, Mrs. Nelson Johnston, Mrs. Edward Johnston, Mrs. Don Wright, Mrs. John Purcell, 2nd Row - Mrs. Gow, Mrs. Harold Ashton, Mrs. Allan Woolner, Mrs. Bert McIntyre, Mrs. Walter Long, unknown.



4 charter members remain

Clachan Women's Institute mark 60th anniversary, Thur.



CLACHAN WI'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CAKE was cut by President Mrs. Clarence McWilliam at Thursday night's meeting. Looking on were: Secretary-treasurer Mrs. Elgin McIntyre, Mrs. Gordon Gow of Dutton, a Provincial Board Director, and charter member Mrs. Garnet Long.
Photo by Mrs. Earl Morden.

Mrs. Edward Johnston began the celebration for the Clachan Women's Institute's 60th birthday, held in the home of Mrs. Donald Wright, by presenting Mrs. Gordon Gow, Mrs. Clarence McWilliam and Mrs. Elgin McIntyre with corsages of gold mums and royal blue ribbons.

Mrs. Clarence McWilliam, president, opened the meeting with the singing of the Ode, followed by the Mary Stewart Collect. Mrs. Garnet Long, the only charter member attending, accompanied the ladies on her portable electric organ.

Mrs. Neil McPhail read Psalm 96. Business was conducted as usual. Roll call was answered by 22 ladies bringing something for the Tweedsmuir History Book. The motto: A backward glance encourages forward strides -- was prepared by Mrs. Gordon Teare and read in her absence by Mrs. Nelson Johnston.

The Tweedsmuir History Curator, Mrs. Edward Johnston, was in charge of the program and began by noting the four charter members are Mrs. Ethel Johnston, Mrs. Cassie Campbell, Mrs. Annie Long and Mrs. Florence Tonge of St. Thomas. Minutes of the first meeting were read. Mrs. Cassie Campbell was secretary at the time.

SPEAKER

Mrs. Annie Long introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Gordon Gow, Dutton, provincial Board Director of the FWIO. Mrs. Gow remarked on how pleased she was to see so many younger women attending as it shows women are still interested in other women and their concerns.

The ACWW and their work around the world was Mrs. Gow's address for the evening. With 280 member societies in 68 countries around the world the Associated Country Women of the World, of

which the Women's Institute is a part, helps to train women all over the world to teach their own women in education, health programs and better understanding of all women and their needs.

Save the Sight project is sponsored by the ACWW and financed through fees, subscriptions and pennies for Friendship as are all other ACWW projects.

Mrs. Edward Johnston thanked the speaker for her informative address and presented her with a gift of appreciation on behalf of members.

A musical interlude was enjoyed with Mrs. Annie Long playing favourite selections on the organ.

HISTORY

Mrs. Edward Johnston presented the Tweedsmuir History as it is today and noted a few areas in which it can be brought up to date. She then read one of Ethel Chapman's selections from her book "Humanities in Homespun" entitled "The pension cheque."

Mrs. Earl Morden and Mrs. Johnston presented a skit called "P for Politics" showing women's responsibilities in being informed at the time of an election.

A contest on "Things from Yesteryears," was won by Mrs. Annie Long.

The meeting closed by singing "The Queen".

The birthday cake was cut by the president and enjoyed by all.

FWIO's 75th anniversary marked by Elgin branches

It is 75 years since the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario came into being, and the anniversary was marked in happy fashion by Elgin County WI's, last evening, when members from all points in the county gathered in the Grace United Church to view the numerous displays and enjoy the program.

A highlight of the evening was the cutting of the huge anniversary cake, and this pleasant ceremony was performed by Mrs. Keith Heipleh, chairman of the rally committee.

It was an evening of fellowship and reminiscence, as speakers recalled how Erland Lee and Adelaide Hoodless laid the groundwork for what was to become a world-wideing of the WI took place at Stoney Creek, Ontario, and the FWIO have purchased the homes of Mrs. Hoodless and Mrs. Lee as lasting tributes to their memory.

Displays depicting the history of Elgin WI's and the areas which they represent were inspected by the many who attended the event. A great deal of work went into these displays, with most of them containing precious memorabilia whose history is entwined with that of the community they represent.

Rev. L. J. Coates, pastor of Grace Church, welcomed the assemblage and told how he had admired and respected

their accomplishments and helping to build good citizens.

"The WI is something to be admired," he said. "This year it is 75 years young. We really need what the WI stands for in these times, for it is always so alert and alive.

Greetings from the Provincial Board were brought by Mrs. Lorne Daniels, FWIO Board director, and from London Area by Mrs. Wallace Laidlaw, second vice-president of the area.

A. V. Langton, Elgin County's representative for the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, conveyed his good wishes and those of his department. He introduced Elgin's new home economist, Miss Lois Ferguson, who arrived in St. Thomas on Thursday, to begin her duties. She extended good wishes on behalf of Mrs. D. G. Marcou, who has been acting home economist.

A paper, prepared by Mrs. J. Robinson Fulcher, titled A Few Highlights of My WI Experiences, was read by Mrs. Herb Jackson, who also presented highlights of Elgin County Rally. The history of East Elgin was given by Mrs. J. Gowan Young, and that of West Elgin by Mrs. Vermont Pow.

A skit, The Women's Institute Story, was much enjoyed, and its presentation was given by Mrs. Roy McNeil and Mrs. Young.



THE ANNIVERSARY CAKE — Mrs. Keith Heipleh, chairman of Elgin County Women's Institute Rally, had the happy task of cutting the 75th anniversary cake last evening, when WI members from all points in Elgin County, gathered to mark the founding of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. (T.-J. Photo).



ARRANGING DISPLAY — Highlights of the marking of the 75th anniversary of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario by Elgin County WI's, were the many displays depicting the history of the various branches and the communities which they represent. Here, Mrs. Edward Johnston, display convener (left) and Mrs. Earl Morden, convener of education and cultural affairs, look over the display which they arranged for their branch, the Clachan Women's Institute. (-J. Photo).



ELGIN WEST DISTRICT ANNUAL HELD — Members of Elgin West Women's Institutes gathered in Knox Presbyterian Church at Kintyre on Wednesday for their district annual meeting. Enjoying a few moments out of doors before the afternoon session are: (from left), Mrs.

Grace Campbell, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Mary Laidlaw, London Area president; Mrs. Verna A. Maluske, provincial president; Mrs. Wilma MacAdam, past president; Mrs. Mary Gow, provincial board director; Mrs. Eva Reck, new president. (T.-J. Photo)

MAY 23, 1975



68TH ANNUAL — The following directors of the various institutes were present at the annual meeting of the Elgin West District Women's

Institutes. Pictured are, front row, Mrs. Marie Jones, Mrs. Rosina Becker, and Mrs. Gertrude Liepmann, second row, Mrs. Grace Campbell,

Mrs. Barbara Fraser, Mrs. Darlene Willson, Mrs. Agnes Gilbert, and Mrs. Lenora Butler, while the back row consists of Mrs. Willhelmine

Jackson, Mrs. Beulah McWilliam, Mrs. Mary Cowell, Mrs. Margaret Turner, Mrs. Connie Dieleman, and Mrs. Isabel Tait. (T.-J. Photo).

MAY 21, 1976



THE WHITE TRILLIUM—Ontario's Floral Emblem

75th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON



in honour of the founding of
the Women's Institute in Ontario



CANADIAN ROOM
Saturday, February 12, 1972
12:30 p.m.

THE
ROYAL YORK
TORONTO

Menu

HEARTS of CELERY - QUEEN OLIVES

* * *

ESSENCE of TOMATO

* * *

ONTARIO MIXED GRILL

(Chicken Leg, Bacon, Sausage, Mushrooms and Grilled Tomato)

BOILED PARISIENNE POTATOES

GARDEN GREEN PEAS

* * *

CREAM PUFF, CHANTILLY

* * *

COFFEE, TEA

1897



1972

Programme

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs. H. L. Noblitt,
President, Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

* * *

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GRACE

We thank Thee, Father for Thy care
Food, friends and kindness we share;
May we forever mindful be
Of "Home and Country" and of Thee.

* * *

"HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN"

* * *

GREETINGS

* * *

GUEST SPEAKER:

Mrs. Olive Lanyon Farquharson, O.B.E.
President, Associated Country Women of the World

* * *

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE AROUND THE WORLD

Mrs. Kenneth Chapin - Mrs. Chester Jackson
Brant County

EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY

o f

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

i n

ONTARIO

JULY 13, 1977

BINGEMAN PARK
KITCHENER



"W. I. SHOWS
HOW AN IDEA GROWS"

AN IDEA GROWS

Eighty years ago Adelaide Hoodless had an idea of founding an organization to assist women in the efficient operation of their homes. Encouraged and aided by Erland Lee and his wife Janet, she founded the first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, Ontario, February 19, 1897.

Branches increased in numbers throughout Ontario and the remainder of Canada until in 1919 both the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada were formed.

The idea continued to spread. By the dynamic zeal of Mrs. Alfred Watt, a Canadian who had organized the first W.I. in England and Wales, and with the help of Lady Aberdeen and Miss Zimmern, the Associated Women of the World was founded in 1933.

The work of the W.I. has at all times stressed high standards in studies, projects, courses aimed at improving home and family life, in developing leadership and in serving the community at home and abroad.

Institute Grace

Smorgasbord

PROGRAM

O Canada

Opening Ode

Mary Stewart Collect

Sing Song - Mrs. Hugh Baird
Mrs. William Stone

Greetings - Mrs. Herbert Maluske

Solo - Mrs. Marianne Trifunovich
accompanied by Mrs. Mary-Louise Vosburgh

Address - Mrs. Lyndsay Hackett-Pain,
Honourary Treasurer of A.C.W.W.

Sing Song

Solo

God Save the Queen



MRS. CLARENCE McWILLIAM PRESENTED LIBRARIAN MRS. CHARLES LUDY and assistant Mrs. Helen Stinson with "A Heritage of Canadian Handicrafts," Tuesday afternoon, the gift of the Clachan Women's Institute of which Mrs. McWilliam is president. The book was the project of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada in 1967, and there are still some copies available through the FWIC office in Ottawa. It has valuable information on all Canadian handicrafts from each province and crafts ranging from Indian handicrafts, spinning and weaving, rug making, quilting, pottery, leathercraft, woodwork metal arts and stone polishing.



A happy occasion took place at the Clachan Community Hall on November 21, 1976 when one of our Charter Women's Institute members - Mrs. Annie M. Long celebrated her 80th Birthday with her family, friends and Institute members. She was presented with a Life Member Certificate in Clachan Women's Institute by Mrs. Mary Gow - District President - one of her daughters-in-law, Mrs. Arthur Long is standing in the background.



Mrs. Long is cutting her Birthday Cake and members of Institute pour tea to her guests in the background.

The Mary Stewart Collect

This is the Season of District Annuals . . . and From Ottawa to Sarnia and Wallaceburg to Fort William, Members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Will Be Repeating Together This Prayer.

By KATHRYN HANSULD.

SOME 47,000 women in Ontario alone know how Mary Stewart touched "the great human heart common to us all" with her collect which was first published in 1904 and is now used to open meetings of branches of the Women's Institute. Not only do the Associated Countrywomen of the World (of which the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada is a part) have as their own the Mary Stewart Collect, but year books of hundreds of groups around the world include this famous prayer to be used in their meetings.

The collect was first printed in *The Delineator*, a women's magazine no longer published, but then nationally popular in the United States. The first large women's organization to adopt it was the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The author was a native of Ohio, but moved to Colorado when she was very young. Following her graduation from the University of Colorado she became principal of a high school in Longmont, where she wrote the famous collect.

The collect was introduced to the Women's Institutes in England by Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.B.E., who later presented it to the Associated Country Women of the World. She was president of the A.C.W.W. at the time and the author had given the copyright to that international organization. In a letter to Mrs. Watt, the author told how she came to compose the prayer.

"I wrote the collect when I was principal of the Longmont High School in Colorado. It was my first position after college and the friendly Longmont women made me a member of their Fortnightly Club . . . and the first far gleam of what women, working together, might accomplish, came to me. It was written as a prayer for the day. I called it *A Collect for Club Women* because I felt that club women working together with wide interests for large ends were a new thing under the sun and that perhaps they had need for the special petitions and meditation of this aim."

This must be true, for the collect has found its way round the world, wherever women, especially English-speaking women, get together.

Miss Stewart was a very public-spirited woman. She helped organize the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs and was an enthusiastic supporter of women's suffrage. As well as being an educator (doing junior guidance work and placement work in its

pioneer days) she was a writer of some success. She contributed to newspapers and magazines and produced a volume impressively titled *Metrical Translations From the Latin Lyrics of Poet Catullus*. In 1921 she became assistant director general of the U. S. Employment Service and from 1928 until a year before her death in 1943 was assistant director of education in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In 1927 she was honoured by her alma mater, the University of Colorado, which conferred a degree in recognition of her work in education, social and civic service.

All the early copies of the collect were signed Mary Stuart, a spelling used as a pen name which led to some error in credit of authorship. The composition has even been accredited to Mary, Queen of Scots, who was also Mary Stuart!

A few slight deviations from the original text were bound to creep in with so many groups using it. When the title was *A Collect for Club Women*, some organizations used the wording "The great woman's heart common to us all," substituting "woman's" for "human." Miss Stewart herself acknowledged the substitution, commenting that "groups may decide for themselves which form they like." She preferred the latter, explaining, "While one of the ways we still work most effectively is in women's groups, we work for ends that concern men and women alike, and our greatest need, as our greatest strength, is to think and act in terms that are human."

One mistake she deplored was the substitution of "as one" for "at one" in the text. "At one," she explained, "is a fine old English idiom with rich connotation. To be 'at one' in aim and in spirit is not necessarily to be 'as one.' In fact, we may have one common purpose, fix our vision on one high, far goal and yet move toward it from many directions, richer for their diversity and ennobled for the tolerance which they demand."

Before her death in 1943 she released her own version and comments through the General Federation of Women's Clubs in the United States.

Institute members everywhere have reason to be grateful for the author who found words for their deepest thoughts. It might have been yesterday, instead of almost a decade ago that she wrote to those who had adopted her prayer, "Indeed, we have need to grow calm, serene and gentle, if in these dire days our judgments would be generous."

A Centennial Poem 1967

From the shores of Nova Scotia to Vancouver Island's strand
There's a realm we're proud to dwell in, great Canada, our native land.
The founding fathers struggled to make our country free,
And in eighteen sixty-seven our nation came to be.
It's a land steeped in tradition, which we see at Parliament's call,
And our laws of constitution mean justice for one and all.
It's a land of rugged beauty from the Great Lakes to the north,
The majestic Rocky Mountains lure both native and tourist forth.
The oil wells, forests and the mines, bespeak of wealth untold,
And on the prairies acres of wheat are waving their heads of gold.
In this great land of the maple leaf, the beaver, wolf and moose,
The marvels of nature rule supreme in the flight of the Canada goose.
The beautiful lakes and rivers take second place to none,
As they stretch from our southern border to the land of the midnight sun.
The beauty of the Rockies is famed throughout our land
And the cataracts of Niagara are awesome, fierce and grand.
The forests, tall and stately, are home for moose and bear,
And the great white owl so regal, soars haughtily through the air.
Oh, Canada, we love you, the land our forbears trod,
And may we always think of you as the handiwork of GOD.

.....

By Marion Teare

Ontario

There is a province in this land that's beautiful to see
I love it's every grain of sand, I'm glad it's home for me.
If ever I should wander from this my native home,
I'd never cease to ponder why I ever left to roam.
When I see all around me the fields of tall green corn,
I vow that I will never flee this spot where I was born.
The rippling fields of golden wheat are something to behold,
For right here at my very feet, is a natural wealth of gold.
The grass is nowhere greener than in my own back yard,
And the bark of the fox is keener where the oak and the ash stand guard.
I'm proud to be residing in this province so divine,
And I hope to keep abiding in the province I call mine.
I'm sure you'd like to know the name of this province I love so,
Ontario, which has the claim of the land where the trilliums grow.

.....

By Marion Teare

A Grandmother's Problem

They asked me how I liked it when Sandi came along
I said it was a real big thrill and burst out into song.
I really never took the time amid the jubilation
To fret about the terrible thought I was now the older generation.
When Jeff was born I danced for joy, to me this was perfection,
Because there was a baby boy to add to the collection.
And now that Terry has arrived I'm happier far than ever,
But now there creeps into my mind a thought I cannot sever.
At first it didn't worry me, but now it makes me sore,
It really never crossed my mind to give it thought before.
The thing that bugs me out of my skull and drives me to distraction
Is something I can't rectify so can't take any action.
It haunts me night and morning and sticks inside my crop
It's the thought that I am too darn young to be married to an old grandpop.

.....

By Marion Teare

A Limerick About Myself

There was a young lady named Marion
Who was always a fetchin' and carryin'
Till she fetched up with ague
And carried the plague
And now she's a waitin' for buryin'.
And now this old lady named Marion
While waitin' around for the buryin'
Of a sudden revived
Now is glad she survived
For now she's considerin' a marryin'.

.....

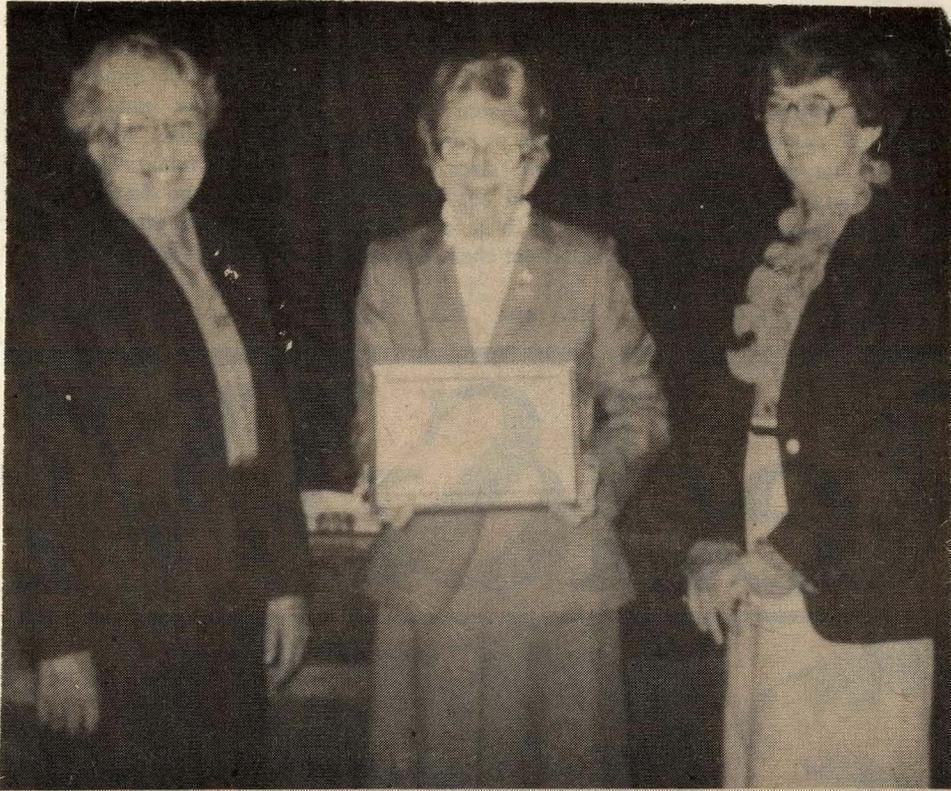
By Marion Teare

Hats

Hats can be beautiful, hats can be mad,
Hats can be silly, hats can be sad,
Hats can be colorful, hats can be dreamy,
But the hats I like best are the hats that are screamy.

.....

By Marion Teare



MRS. GORDON WOOLNER, centre, was presented recently with a Women's Institute Life Membership for over 40 years of faithful service to the Clachan organization and community. Mrs. Harold Johnston and Mrs. Nelson Johnston made the presentation.

SEPT. 26 1983 LIFE MEMBERSHIP and PIN PRESENTED
to NORINE WOOLNER.



WOMEN - UNLIMITED POTENTIAL

It was a special evening on Sept 26/83 when 46 women (21 members and 25 visitors) filled Clachan Hall.

The meeting opened as usual with Mrs. Nelson Johnston presiding, and business and correspondence was dealt with.

Mrs. Johnston introduced some of the special guests: Mrs. Russell Campbell, board director of F.W.I.O.; Mrs. Ralph Palmer, president of Elgin West District, and her executive: Mrs. Cowell, Mrs. Beecroft, Mrs. Butler and Mrs. Gordon.

Mrs. Ron Alderton, our P.R.O. then introduced the guest speakers: Mrs. Palmer; mayor of Bothwell, Mrs. Glenn Kelly; independent business manager of the Bank of Montreal, Mrs. Ron McIntyre; co-manager of a tobacco farm, Mrs. Ken Okolisan; a nursing home employee, Mrs. John Purcell; deputy reeve of Aldborough township, Mrs. Alex Vojin; music teacher, Mrs. Bob Walker; painter, Mrs. Bob Spence; and dedicated mother and homemaker, Mrs. George Quinton. Each gave a short talk on how their work and homemaking prove that women do have unlimited potential.

The highlight of the evening was a "this is your life" slide presentation by Mrs. Nelson Johnston of Mrs. Gordon Woolner's life and work in the Clachan Women's Institute. A life membership to the Women's Institute and a pin were also presented to Mrs. Woolner, it being a surprise for her. Mrs. Woolner has been a member for 49 years and has held practically every office. She has been an inspiration to many around her because of her hard work, kind deeds, and humbleness.

This was an outstanding evening.



CLACHAN W.I. CELEBRATES 70 YEARS STRONG

March 8 /84 saw the Clachan Hall filled to capacity with Institute members and their families to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Clachan Women's Institute.

The evening began with a pot luck supper preceded by the singing of the Institute Hymn. After the meal a specially decorated anniversary cake was cut and served. Seven past presidents and the current president, Mrs. Nelson Johnston, had their picture taken with the cake. Mrs. Gordon Woolner, Mrs. Jim Purcell, Mrs. Ron Alderton, Mrs. Harold Johnston, Mrs. Allan Woolner, Mrs. Elgin McDutye and Mrs. Gordon Peare were the past presidents.

The theme of the meeting was "Flashbacks to 1914."

Roll call was answered by an old superstition or saying. The secretary read the minutes, which were highlights of minutes from 1914 and some of the early years of the Institute.

Examples of such were: a motion to build a shed at Clachan Hall to house the horses, a motion to raise funds for the shed by quilting, each quilt being sold for \$1.00, and a paper being read by the president on "The housefly and your health."

After the mock minutes were read, Mrs. Carl Morden introduced our guest speaker, Mr. David Murray, agriculture representative of Elgin County, who gave an amusing address of farming, and his job.

Mrs. Ted Johnston and Mrs. Ken Okolisian gave a short history on the beginnings of the Clachan community.

Mrs. Ron Alderton conducted a story-telling contest, which was popular years ago at meetings. Mrs. Ray Alderton won by the loudest applause of the audience.

Music for a short interval of dancing was provided by local musicians, Mr. + Mrs. John McCell. Mr. Stan Maudling "called" for square dances.

A most enjoyable celebration of Clachan Women's Institute's 70th anniversary!

Bicentennial Medal Presentation



On December 11, 1984 a Bicentennial Medal was presented to Hilde, (Mrs. Earl) Morden in recognition of her service to the community. She is vice president of Clackan N. S., president of Kintyre N. M. S. and is active in many other community organizations. She is seen here being presented with her medal by Gordon Walker, M. L. A. for London South and Ron McNeil, M. L. A. for Elgin.

Your chance to honour a shining example.



For Service to the Community

They are the bedrock of society, quietly, selflessly devoted to those who need help. They are the people who, with no thought of compensation, voluntarily devote part of their lives to the bettering of the lives of others - the disabled, the disadvantaged, the sick and the lonely. Some contribute their time and talents to helping others achieve - in culture, arts, sports and recreation.

Bicentennial Medals

To commemorate Ontario's Bicentennial, a special medal has been struck. Made from Ontario gold and nickel and minted in Ottawa, the medal features Ontario's coat of arms and the Bicentennial symbol.

Nominate a Special Person

In this Bicentennial year, 1,984 medals will be awarded to volunteers who have made a valuable contribution to their communities. Every community across the province including



municipalities, Indian Bands and local service boards will be asked to nominate anywhere from one to 13 non-elected individuals (dependent on population). Beyond this, some 200 medals will be awarded to citizens whose names have been put forward by their fellow citizens or by volunteer organizations.

Ontario's Bicentennial

It's an occasion for communities to join together and celebrate our rich diversity. The Bicentennial Medals Program is one way we can honour those special values we all hold in common, and those special individuals who've made our life together better.

We need your nomination by June 30, 1984. Nomination forms are available by writing:

*Executive Secretary, Bicentennial
Awards Committee, Box 1984, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1N3*



William G. Davis
Premier

Margaret Birch, M.P.P.
Parliamentary Assistant
to the Premier



COMMUNITY



J.H. Trestian's General store,
Clachan, Ont.



Post office.

Village of Clachan 1905.



THE VILLAGE OF CLACHAN

By R.J. Scott 1960.

Clachan was named by a mail courier James McBride, who made his rounds on horseback. He found many things here that reminded him of the old Scottish word "Clack" meaning a stone and "Clachan" a strong or rocky place. The gravel laden country side of the Aldborough Plains inspired the name.

Near the river Thames was a spot where history was made and lovers of the good earth toiled and made stalwart Canadians. This was typical of the life from which grew rural Ontario.

The mail was delivered between New Glasgow and Wardsville. When James McBride brought the first mail on horseback to Clachan the Post Office was in the home of Mrs. Marshbanks who lived on lot 9, Concession 3, Furnival road. This Post Office was later moved to the corner of Concession 3, and Black's Lane, where Duncan McPhail was the Post Master and also storekeeper. At this same corner Sandy Young operated a blacksmith shop and Archibald McLeod a shoemaker's shop. Mr. Poole also operated a cheese factory. The Clachan Post Office was then moved to the Elgin-Kent townline and Concession 3. This is the present location of the hamlet of Clachan.

The first store at this location was built by James Gill who also used a portion of the store for a post office. After Mr. Gill's disappearance on his way to Bothwell his business was conducted by his widow. Charles Jennings then became owner of the store which was later sold to Fred Stricker.

Fire destroyed this building and Henry McKay moved a frame kitchen to the corner of his farm and Mr. Stricker was able to continue while a new building was erected on the former site. Mr. Stricker was succeeded by R.S. Copeland, William Killet, John Trestain and James Trestain.

Mr. James Trestain built a larger store across the townline on the Kent county side. Mr. Trestain conducted business here for many years. He was succeeded by Cecil Janes, Arthur Staples, Mrs Staples, Austin Brothers, Lloyd Hillman and Fred Pyke. Mr. Leo Cross is the present storekeeper and owner of this store.

Mrs. Lachlan Patterson was the last to serve the mail from the Clachan Post Office. Mail was brought from the Grand Trunk Railway in Bothwell to the Clachan Post Office by John Hillman Sr. Alex McArthur, Malcolm McArthur and John L. Patterson. Rural delivery of mail followed and for several years mail has been delivered daily to

The VILLAGE OF CLACHAN
cont'd By R.J. Scott

Clachan from Bothwell and Wardsville.

Clachan has a very rich farming section and during the early days of Clachan the blacksmith shop was very necessary. Mr Duncan McColl built one of the earliest shops. He was succeeded by George Richard Johnson, Thomas Lackey, William Davidson, Amos Kearns, Henry Elwood, George Willets, Herbert Mayers and Frank Kelly.

CLACHAN HALL

By Mrs. Shirley Johnston

Good Afternoon Ladies. It is my pleasure to-day to speak to you as a representative of Clachan Women's Institute. Clachan, as you may know is situated on the Elgin-Kent boundry. Although the Dominion of Canada census of last year may call it an "unincorporated village," We of the district like to think of Clachan as a community, and maybe even a rather special community with a rather special community spirit, so that we are proud to say, "We're from Clachan, and the women are proud to say, "We belong to Clachan W.I.

Our local Institute branch was formed on Jan, 24, 1914, but it is of something that had its beginning before then that I should like to speak to you to-day. My subject might be called "The Clachan Hall." Clachan never was a very large place, having just one store at any time, a post office, a chopping mill, a blacksmith shop, with the several homes that clustered around the corner. Until just a few years ago, there was no church right at Clachan, although there were several near by. The public schools are placed neatly a couple of miles away in either direction, so that there was no public building in Clachan where meetings might be held. So on March 25, 1912, 50 years ago, the first meeting of the Clachan Co-operative Hall Co. Ltd. was held, to make plans for building a hall. Minute books are apt, from their very nature, to be slightly dull reading, and so the minute book of this company follows this pattern, with no exclamation points visible. But try to imagine what had transpired before this meeting. I can see a few men, maybe at the store or at the blacksmith shop, wishing that Clachan had a meeting hall, and perhaps some brave and far-seeing man had said, "Why don't we build one?" I'm sure much discussion had taken place before that meeting in March of 1912, perhaps for years even. But now they had gone ahead and made the decision to build a hall at Clachan. Of course, the first hurdle, even fifty years ago, was the financing of such a venture. So the Clachan Co-operative Hall Co. Ltd. was formed, and shares were sold at \$10. a share. Many public-spirited men of the community bought these shares & so the building of the hall was financed. May I say that these fine men of the community have never received any financial benefits from their shares, but I'm sure that was not their prime motive at any time, and the the social and cultural returns have been great. It would take far too too long to name all the original shareholders, but mention should be made of some - Henry Hillman, George Newman, Albert Dark, George Attridge, James Trestain, Alex James, Angus Colquhoun and many many

CLCLACHAN HALL cont'd

By Mrs. Shirley Johnston

others. A lot was purchased from Mr. Angus Colguhoun, and the building was planned at the first meeting - a building to be 32' by 50', with four windows on either side, a stage at the front, with a basement room under the stage. Volunteer labour built the hall, and the grand opening night was in January of 1913, when a concert was held. And so began a new era for the community - with concerts, debates, plays and entertainments of many kinds being presented by local and visiting talent. Through the years the hall has performed its functions very well- being available for dances and card parties as well as the other entertainments. Whenever a young person of the district is married, then of course the hall is used for the shower, where many a young bride has had her first meeting with her new neighbors.

As well as its main function, the hall at Clachan has provided a fine example of co-operation. It was a co-operation that built the hall, and it has been a co-operation that has kept it in its present good state of repair - co-operation between the hall company and the other organizations of the community. When Clachan had an active Junior Farmers' group, they held their meetings in the hall, and they provided among other things, a piano and new drapes for the stage.

The Women's Institute has for many years, had the hall as their special community affairs project, and we have assisted the hall company many times when their finances were low. As well, the Institute has provided many new improvements - new stage scenery, Kitchen and entry, chairs and redecoration. For the last two years we have sponsored card parties and dances in the hall every two weeks during the winter months. The proceeds from these parties are used to provide something that we feel the hall needs. Last year the men of the community sanded and refinished the floor and the Institute paid for the materials used. And so the hall at Clachan continues its mission, of providing a place for residents to enjoy themselves, and also providing a reason for different organizations to work harmoniously toward a common goal- that of a meeting place which we all admire. Those men of fifty years ago are to be congratulated for starting such a worthy project, and we hope when you visit Clachan and see the hall, you will remember those men of vision.

The above subject on CLACHAN HALL was given by Mrs. Harold Johnston over C. H. L.O. on April 17, 1962.

No. 60

This Certifies That

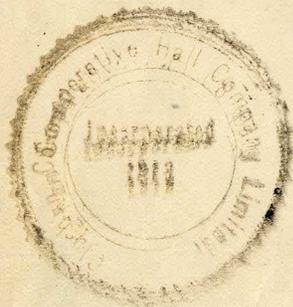
5 Shares

Clachan Womens Institute

is the owner of Five fully paid shares of the Capital Stock of

The Clachan Co-Operative Hall Company, Limited.

The said Shares are transferable only on the Books of the Company in person or by Attorney on surrender of this Certificate.



In Witness Whereof the said Company has caused this certificate to be signed by the duly authorized officers under the Corporate Seal of the Company this 1st day of July 1946

Dugald Lindsay Hugh H. Johnston
President Secy

(Shares \$10.00 Each)

For Value Received.....have bargained, sold, assigned,

and transferred, and by these presents do bargain, sell, assign and transfer unto

.....
.....

the Capital Stock named in the within certificate, and do hereby constitute
and appoint.....

true and lawful attorney, irrevocable for..... and in name and
stead, but to use, to sell, assign, transfer and set over all or any part of
the said stock, and for that purpose to make and execute all necessary acts of assign-
ment and transfer, and one or more persons to substitute with like full power.

Dated.....19.....

Signed and acknowledged
in the presence of

.....
.....

2. spaces

The
**Clachan Dramatic
Club**

will present

“Lighthouse Nan”

a three Act Comedy Drama
in **CLACHAN HALL**

Tuesday Evening Feb. 24th, '25

CAST OF CHARACTERS

HON. JOHN ENLOW.. President of Sea Coast Banking Co... ARTHUR DOWNIE
NED BLAKE..... His Private Secretary..... GORDON WOOLNER
ICHABOD BUZZER—The Old Keeper of the Lighthouse.. JARVIS JOHNSTON
SIR ARTHUR CHOKE..... A British Aristocrat..... BRUCE HILLMAN
INJUN JIM..... A Bad Man..... WILLIAM GRAHAM
NAN..... A Little Roustabout..... TILLIE GRAHAM
MOLL BUZZER..... The Gentle Antelope..... GLADYS DOWNIE
HON. SARAH CHUMLEY CHOKE..... Arthur's Sister..... LILA McPHAIL
HORTENSE ENLOW..... A City Belle..... EDNA JOHNSTON

SYNOPSIS

ACT I—The Exterior of a Rough Lighthouse on the Carolina Coast. Nan begins her Education.

ACT II—Same Scene. Ten Days Later. Nan continues her Education.

ACT III—Library in John Enlow's City Home. Two years later. Nan completes her Education.

COMIC SONGS AND READINGS BETWEEN ACTS.

DANCING FROM 11 TO 2 A. M.

Admission---35c. and 25c.

Curt *Y. P. J.*





Oak Grove School S.S. #10, 1891



HISTORY OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL

By Belle Taylor.

The first school building to serve this community was a log structure built in 1853 on Black's Lane near Brigam Road (which is now the first concession). The little building had a chimney built of clay and had but three windows. The corner stone of this modest building was laid by Mr. Alex Campbell on May 2, 1853. The first trustees to serve were Messers. Neil McLarty, Duncan McColl and Alex Campbell. The first teacher was Mr. John McColl who taught for \$12.00 per month. The average attendance of pupils was twenty. Education was earned in the hard way those days. Long wooden benches served the pupils for seats. There were not any desks on which to lay their books, and no backs on the benches on which they might lean their weary backs, but they served the purpose and the little log building turned out men and women of whom we were justly proud. Three of the pupils who attended this school and who had reached the ages of ninety and more, spending their entire lives in the community, were called to the Great Beyond during the winter of 1946-47 in the persons of Mrs. Hannah Hillman, Mr. Daniel Paterson and Mr. Alex McIntyre. Descendants of these comprising the fourth generation are in attendance now at Oak Grove.

As time went on people cleared more land yearly and the community became more prosperous and the population increased so it was deemed necessary to build a better and larger school building. Oak Grove School building number two was built in 1863, this being a frame building and was built on Black's Lane near the third concession on Lot NO.4. This building stood on the grounds on which the present building stands, but was nearer the road. This was a two room building all on the ground floor. The first teacher in the building No, 2 was Miss Margaret Stalker of Crinan, who was followed down through the years by the following teachers:

Mr. Alex McDonald	Mr. J.F. Mills
Mr. John Bryden	Mr. Duncan McIntyre
Mr. James B. McKillop	Mr. D.A. Grout
Mr. John B. Campbell	Mr. J.A. Cole
Anne Campbell	Miss Eliza McDermid
Mr. Robert Munroe	Mr. Henry Kelly
Mr M.G. Millman	Mr. Wm. Skellan
Mr. J.F. Mills	Mr. James Skellan
	Miss Emma Lyons

HISTORY OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL

Cont'd By Belle Taylor

James B. McKillop became a Crown Attorney in London and Robert became a Baptist Minister, later married Miss Mary Graham.

It may be interesting to know that the actual enrollment in building No.2. in 1881 as taken by the Secretary Mr. John McLeod was One hundred and fifty two (152). We wonder how they were accommodated in the little old school building.

The school building in the early days was the center of community life, singing school, debates, spelling bees and political meetings. The building was also used for religious services until the Aldborough Plains Baptist Church was built in 1872.

Time marches on and once more it was decided the school building was inadequate and in 1890 the present brick two-story building was erected. Mr. Henry McKay Sr. contracting to build same at a cost of (3400.00) three thousand four hundred dollars. The Scott Brothers, William and Robert were the carpenters. The equipment was furnished by Mr. G.E. Wray of Rodney who at that time owned the book shop which recently was owned by his son Carl Wray. The school trustees were Messers. Dugald McLean, Robert Johnston and Patrick Doyle. This building was opened by a special celebration on January 30, 1891. The celebration committee was Messers. Duncan Graham, D. McLean and D.G. McPherson. There was a flag raising ceremony and the flag that was hoisted was won by a student of Oak Grove School No. 10 in the person of John A. McRae, who later became teacher in the school. The essay written by John McRae and which took the first prize in Elgin County was "The Patriotic Influence of Hoisting the Flag on the Schools"

The first two teachers to teach in the present school building was Mr. Donald Thomson as principal and Miss Hoy as assistant. In 1892 Miss Florence Vining assisted Mr. J.A. Skellan, Mr. Charles Harris taught a short time, 1893 found Miss Clementine Coleman and Mr. J.E. Whiting. Miss Coleman also taught in 1894 when Mr. J.A. McRae was principal. Miss Florence Gessner and Mr. E.C. Lumsden taught together in 1895. Mr Lumsden remained until 1897 when Miss Flora Campbell was his assistant. Miss Campbell also assisted Mr. Neil McPhail in 1898. His next assistant was Miss Rose Lee until 1900. Miss Marion Allen and Duncan Ferguson(both Oak Grove former pupils) taught until 1901 when Miss Allen continued as assistant to Mr. I.A. McLean in 1902. Mr McLean taught until 1904 with Miss Bida Graham in the lower room.

HISTORY OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL

cont'd By Belle Taylor.

In 1905 they were succeeded by Miss Jessie Graham and Mr. E.H. McKone who taught until 1906 when Miss F.L. McLean took the Junior room. In 1907 Miss Cassie McLarty and Miss Jean Anderson taught together remaining until 1909. These were followed by Miss M.J. Smith and Miss Clara Campbell in 1910. Miss Smith remained as assistant to Mr. J.E. McLarty then Miss Florence Wilson took Miss Smith's room until 1912. Miss Wilson continued in 1913 when Miss Nellie McDonald was the principal with Miss Ada Kennedy in the lower room. In 1914 Miss Agnes Lamont and Miss Elizabeth Brennen took over the teaching duties. From 1914 to 1915 Miss Agnes Duncan and Miss Ceila McRae were the teachers when Miss Duncan was succeeded by Miss Helen White. From 1916 to 1918 Miss Olivia Fairchild and Miss Maria Mclean taught. From 1918 until 1920 Miss Elva Skippen and Miss Janet Walker took over teaching duties. From 1920 to 1921 Miss Hunchburger and Miss Nora Maguire taught. Miss Hilda Swanton followed Miss Hunchburger as Miss Maguire's assistant from 1921 to 1922. Miss Swanton was then transferred upstairs and Miss E. Pethrick was the lower room teacher. In 1923 Miss Alice Lightfoot taught the Junior room and Miss A. Bandeen assumed the duties of Principal. Miss Lightfoot also taught in 1924 when Mr. Allistair McColl was principal. In 1925 Gordon Stinson assisted Mr. McColl, then Mr. Hugh McColl hired as principal and Mr. Stinson continued in the Junior room until 1927 when Miss Jessie Allen and Miss Jean Wiley took over the school until 1929. Mr. Harvey Gillies then took the upper room and Miss Allan continued in her position until 1930. Miss Ila Butler then began teaching the lower room while Mr. Gillies continued as principal until 1933 when Miss Margaret Campbell was hired as his assistant until 1934. Miss Barbara Graham and Miss Walker taught together until 1936, when Mr. Allan Craig was hired as Junior teacher and Mr. Irvine Newcombe as Senior teacher until 1939. In 1939 Mr. Glen Schliehauf was hired to teach the upper room where taught until 1941 and Allan Craig remaining in the Junior room until 1941, he was then transferred to the upper room and Miss Sabin was hired in the Junior room. In 1942 Miss Grace Campbell was hired for the Senior room, Miss Sabin continuing in the Junior room until 1943. Miss Jean Humphries taught in the Upper room from June 1943 to Nov.30, 1943 with Miss Francis Whalls in the lower room when Miss Whalls was transferred to the upper room and Mrs Nancy Taylor was engaged for the lower room.

HISTORY OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL
cont'd By Belle Taylor.

They both continued in this capacity until 1945, when the upper room was discontinued, the following teachers serving in the lower room;

Miss Atkinson 1945-46

Mr. Squires 1946-47.

Mr. Alex McColl 1947-50

Mr. Paul Baker 1950.

Mrs Alice Paton May and June of 1951. Mrs Dorothy Degraw followed in 1951.

In 1940 the fiftieth anniversary was celebrated on the school grounds with an all day and evening picnic at which former pupils and teachers again met and rehearsed the doings of the old school days. At this date 1952 the old school has been carrying on for sixty two years. During these years many improvements have been added to the building making it a modern centre of education.

During this time the school has had only six ~~secretariess~~

Mr. Dugald McLean

Mr. Alex McIntyre

Mr. Dan Paterson

Mr. Dugald Lindsay

Mr. Gordon Woolner

Mr. Firman Mann

At the outbreak of World War One, Many of our Oak Grove boys heard the call of their country. The Photographic tablets on the walls of the school building and the community hall hang as one of the memorials to the service of the boys. We bow in memory to two of our boys who made the supreme sacrifice in World War one, Nelson Doyle and Fred Meyer.

Again at the outbreak of World War 2. our boys responded to the call of their country to make this world a better place in which to live and where there would be liberty and justice for all. Again we bow in memory to two more of our boys who made the supreme sacrifice, Orville Long and Gerald D. Purcell. May it be that there sacrifice was not made in vain.

Continued By Mrs. Lena Colquhoun

During the year of 1952 it was found necessary to repair the brick wall at the back of the school. Upon investigation it was found that water had been coming down inside the wall, freezing and chipping the brick during the winters, The trustees therefore decided to reroof the South East side of the school. The old floor in the lower room had become so rough, uneven with cracks, making it hard to keep clean and warm, so a hard-wood floor was laid. Then the new floor looked so nice

HISTORY OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL

Cont'd By Mrs Lena Colquhoun.

the trustees decided to have the room redecorated, buy new desks, as well as a teacher's desk. Mrs Dorothy Degraw was secured as teacher in the fall of 1951 at a salary of \$2500. per year. By March 1952 she found she was unable to teach. Mrs Barbara Fisher was secured to finish the term. In the fall of 1952 Mrs Degraw was rehired for the sum of \$2540. and again for the year of 1953 for \$2600.

During the summer of 1953 a automatic oil furnace was installed, and by that fall the attendance had grown making too many pupils for one teacher. Mrs Jennie Fleming was hired February 1, 1954 to assist Mrs Degraw. In the fall of 1954 the Upper room was reopened.

Mrs Degraw resigned so Mrs Fleming was hired as Senior teacher with Mrs Jack Dobson teaching the Juniors. During the summer the upper room was repainted and a new floor laid. The outside of the school was also painted.

Again in the fall of 1956 the attendance was reduced considerably and it was decided to close the upper room. Mrs Fleming was hired for the sum of \$3000. to teach all the pupils. At the end of the term she resigned and the board hired Mrs Percy Nethercott. In the fall of 1959 Mrs Janet Quinton was hired and the trustees counting all the little folk in our community feel that in the very near future the upper room will again be opened and a second teacher hired.

History of S.S. No. 10 Oak Grove School

Written for the Mercury-Sun by Mrs. Albert Griffith

First School House was Log Structure Built in 1853 — Corner Stone Laid Out by Alex. Campbell—First Teacher was Mr. John McColl Who Taught for \$12 a Month

Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys, when this reunion was planned, I was asked to write a short history of Oak Grove school. It will have to be short, and will perhaps leave many things unsaid that should be said. If this be so, please understand that I am a bit young to remember much that happened in this section, other than the history that was made in the few short terms that I myself attended Oak Grove school.

The beginning of Oak Grove was not fifty years ago but back in 1853 when a little log school house was built on Black's Lane and Brigam Road as the first concession was then called. The little building had a chimney built of clay, and had but three windows. The corner stone of that modest little school house was laid by Mr. Alex. Campbell, on May 2nd, 1853. The first trustees were, Messrs. Neil McLarty, Duncan McColl and Alex. Campbell.

Many of your grandparents attended this old log school. There are three here with us today, Mrs. Hannah Hillfan, Mr. Alex. McIntyre and Mr. Dan Patterson. There may be others, and if there are we would be glad to add their names to our list.

Mr. Altr. McIntyre, our chairman, tells me that the old log school house was built four years before he was born. The first teacher in that little old school was Mr. John McColl, he taught for the handsome wage of \$12 a month. The average attendance at that time was 20 children.

Education in those days was earned the hard way. Long wooden benches served the children for seats, there were no desks to lay their work books on and no backs to the benches to rest their weary backs against. But they survived, these hardy grandparents of our, and the little log Oak Grove turned out men and women of whom we may be justly proud.

As time went on the people became more prosperous, more land was cleared yearly and more the population increased, so that it was deemed necessary to build a larger and better school house; therefore Oak Grove number two came into being in 1865. This was a frame building. It was built in this very school grounds, over where the teeters now are. The first

teacher in this new school was Miss Margaret Stalker of Crinan. They came Alex. McDonald who taught for five years. There followed a long list of teachers which I will not attempt to list as they came, for I do not know their proper sequence. There was John Bryden of Duart, Jas. B. McKillop, who became a Crown Attorney in London; Johnny B. Campbell; Anne Campbell; Bobby Munroe, who later became a Baptist Minister and married Miss Mary Graham; J. A. Cole; J. L. Mills, who also became a minister; Mr. Millman; Wm. and Jas. Skellen; Duncan McIntyre, who used to don skates in Wardsville and skate on the river to Black's Lane; Miss Emma Lyons, who is now Mrs. D. W. Graham, of Wallacetown; two other teachers were D. A. Grout and Henry Kelly. Mr. Kelly was the last teacher in the old frame school and we had hoped to have him with us at the reunion but it was impossible for him to attend.

Half of this little frame school house is still in existence, in fact it may be seen from here. Mr. Arthur Scott purchased it and uses it as an implement shed. The school in those days was the centre of community life. Singing school, debates, spelling bees and political meetings were held there. Many were the good times enjoyed by the section at that time. For a time the frame school was used for religious services. Then in 1872 the Baptist Church was erected to fill that need in the community. At this time there was quite a thriving village at the "corner." Mr. D. McPhail was the local storekeeper. Sandy Young had a blacksmith shop. Archie McLeod was the shoemaker and the cheese factory was run by Mr. Poole.

Time marched on as it has a way of doing and once more it was decided that the Oak Grove school was inadequate; so a new one was planned, and in 1890 Mr. Henry McKay contracted to build this present day school at a cost of \$3,400. The Scott brothers, William and Robert, were the carpenters on the job. The school seats, maps, globes, etc., were furnished by Mr. G. E. Wray, of Rodney, who at that time owned the bookshop

now run by his son, Mr. Carl Wray.

The first trustees of Oak Grove S. S. No. 10 were, Messrs. Dugald McLean, Robert Johnston and Patrick Doyle.

The day this school was opened was just such an event to the people of the section as today is to us. That day was Friday, January 30, 1891. The celebration committee was Mr. D. Graham, Mr. D. McLean and Mr. D. G. McPherson. There was a flag raising ceremony and the flag that was hoisted was won by a student of Oak Grove, John A. McRae, who wrote the prize winning essay in Elgin County on the subject, "The Patriotic Influence of Hoisting the Flag on the Schoolhouse." We hope to have his son John Jr. with us today to read the original essay.

Our school grounds of today, of which we feel justly proud had their start from a natural forest of butter-nut, walnut, hickory nut and oak trees. There are but two oak trees left of the grove from which "Oak Grove" received its name. The old hickory nut tree was the goal in hide and seek for many years.

On the first Arbor day that Ontario celebrated, John H. Hillman and James Lindsay went into McPhail's woods and brought back maple trees and planted them. Many of them are still standing and although James Lindsay has passed on Mr. Hillman recalls vividly the mock ceremony he conducted as the trees were planted.

Oak Grove has today, children belonging to the fourth generation of a family that has gone to the same school. These are the children of William Wright, Earle Egan and Donald William attended the present school as did his mother, Martha Wright, while his grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Hillman, attended the little log Oak Grove. We feel that this is by way of being a record. The inspectors of Oak Grove have been Archibald McLachlan, John L. McColl, A. F. Butler, Mr. Atkins, Mr. J. A. Taylor, Mr. Pearson, Mr. A. B. Lucas, and now Mr. J. C. Smith and his assistant, Mr. A. McColl. We very much regret Mr. Smith's inability to attend the reunion due to the illness of Mrs. Smith.

The first two teachers in the present school were, Miss Hoy, downstairs and Mr. Dan Thompson, upstairs. *Chas Harris a short time*

In 1892, Florence Vining assisted Mr. J. A. Skellen; 1893 found Miss Clementine Coleman and Mr. J. E. Whiting in Oak Grove. Miss Coleman also taught in 1894 when Mr. J. A. McRae was the principal. Miss Florence Gesner and Mr. E. C. Lumsden taught together in 1895. Mr. Lumsden remained until 1897 when Miss Flora Campbell was his assistant. Miss Campbell also assisted Mr. Neil McPhail in 1898; his next assistant was Miss Rose Lee until 1900. Miss Marion Allen and Duncan Ferguson then taught until 1901, when Miss Allen continued as assistant to Mr. I. A. McLean in 1902. Mr. McLean taught until 1904 with Miss Bida Graham in the lower room. In 1905 they were succeeded by Miss Jessie Graham and Mr. E. H. McKone, who taught until 1906 when Miss F. L. McLean took the Jr. room. In 1907 Miss Cassie McLarty and Miss Jean Anderson taught together, remaining until 1909. These teachers were followed by Miss M. J. Smith and Miss Clara Campbell in 1910. Miss Smith remained as assistant to Mr. J. E. McLarty. Then Miss Florent Wilson took Miss Smith's room until 1912. Miss Wilson continued in 1913 when Miss Nellie MacDonald was the principal. In 1914 Miss Agnes Lamont and Miss Elizabeth Brennen took over the teaching duties. From 1914 to 1915 Miss Agnes Duncan and Miss C. McRae were the two teachers. Then Miss Duncan was succeeded by Miss Helen White. From 1916 until 1918 Miss Olivia Fairchild and Miss Maria McLean taught. From 1918 until 1920 Miss Elva Skippen and Miss Janet Walker took over the teaching duties. From 1920 until 1921 Miss Hunchburger and Miss Nora Maguire were the teachers. Miss Hilda Swanton followed Miss Hunchburger as Miss Maguire's assistant from 1921 until 1922. Miss Swanton was then transferred upstairs and Miss E. Petherick was the lower room teacher. In 1923 Miss Alice Lightfoot taught the Junior room, then Miss A. Banded assumed the duties of principal. *Miss*

(Continued from page 1)

Lightfoot also taught in 1924 with Mr. Alistair McColl. In 1925 Gordon Stinson assisted Mr. Alistair McColl. Then Mr. Hugh McColl hired as principal and Mr. Stinson continued in the Junior room until 1927 when Miss Jessie Allan and Miss Jean Wil-

ey took over the school until 1929. Mr. Harvey Gillis then took the upper room and Miss Allan continued in her position until 1930. Miss Ila Butler then began teaching the lower room while Mr. Gillis continued as Principal until 1933 when Miss Margaret Campbell was hired as his assistant until 1934. Miss Barbara Graham and Miss Walker then taught together until 1936. Then Mr. Allan Craig, our present Jr. teacher was hired and Mr. Irvine Newcombe was the new Senior teacher until 1939 when our present Principal, Mr. Glen Schliehauf, was signed.

During all this time our school has only had five secretaries. The first one was Mr. Dugald McLean, then Mr. Alex. McIntyre, Mr. Dan Patterson and finally our present day secretary, Mr. Dugald Lindsay.

In this half century there have been many improvements in the school. The most modern one being the installation of hydro. Our trustees are ever willing to aid in any way possible to make our school a modern centre of education.

A history of Oak Grove would surely be considered incomplete if I failed to mention the name of the children's greatest friend, "Uncle" Dugald Kennedy who recently passed away at his home in Rodney. Many of you today will remember the shouts of glee that greeted the appearance of this kindly friend when he was seen coming to the school, his pockets bulging with apples which he would throw in the yard and laugh heartily as you scrambled after them.

During the last war, Oak Grove's boys answered their country's call as our Canadian boys have ever answered the call to arms. Their pictures hang on the school walls. Some of these brave lads did not come back but live on in our memories. Several obtained commissions, Major Ross Doyle, who is with us today is one of these; Colonel Dan Hillman, D.S.O., is another; Walter Mute, M. C., was also from this community.

Oak Grove in the past has sent out a vast number of Doctors, Lawyers, Ministers, Nurses, Teachers, Musicians, men and women to every walk of life. We feel certain that the children of those men and women will ever carry on the grand tradition of a grand old school—Oak Grove, S. S. No. 10.

First School in County

Local historians differ on several matters pertaining to the earliest period of the Talbot settlement. Some have claimed that Elgin's first school was built at Watson's Corners in Southwold, but the late George Munro, Aldborough pioneer, said the first school ever opened in Elgin was in Malahide Township in 1816; with Malcolm Robinson starting the first school in his own long house in Aldborough Township in 1819. Up until 1830, only 20 schools existed in the settlement.



Oak Grove School 1909,
Miss Jean Anderson Sr. Room.
Miss Julia McIntyre, Jr. Room.





Oak Grove School 1934

Teachers and Pupils

Oak Grove School 19

- Row 1 Katherine ~~McLean~~, Priscilla Ashton
- Row 2 Lawrence Ashton, Earl Wright, Harold Patterson, Arthur Long, Shirley Ashton, Lucy Wilkins
- Row 3 Nelson Johnston, Bill Wilkins, Jack Wilkins, Lyle Little, Edgin McIntyre, Bill Kelly
- Row 4 Helen Patterson, Cora Cadogan, Evelyn Wright, Hubert Wilkins, John Colquhoun
- Row 5 John Purcell, Bob Lidster, Marion Patterson, Marion Lidster, Donna Liddow, Lyle Mann,
- Row 6 June Patterson, Marion Woolner, Walter Long, unknown

Teachers Barbara Graham Miss Walker



Teachers and Pupils of "Oat Grove" School
(List of names of Teachers and Pupils on following
page)

The names of Teachers and Pupils of Oak Grove School
in the year - 1934 as shown on picture on previous page are;

Sitting - unknown, Arthur Long, Earl Wright, Bill Kelly, Harold
Patterson, Lyle Little, Nelson Johnston,

Kneeling - unknown, Donald Campbell, unknown, Evelyn Wright,
Helen, Patterson, unknown, Elgin McIntyre,

3rd Row - Dennis Dickson, Harold Johnston, Joan Purcell,
Peggy Doyle, Lucy Wilkins, Mary Pardo, John Colquhoun,
Earl Price,

Last Row - John Kelly, unknown, Orville Long, Grace Campbell,
Marion Purcell, Mary Colquhoun, Kay McLean, and the
teachers - Rose Campbell and Harvey Gillies.

1890

Golden Jubilee

1940

S. S. No. 10, Aldborough

requests the honour of your presence

at a

Reunion Basket Picnic

of

former teachers and pupils

to be held on the School Grounds, on

Saturday, August 24th,

nineteen hundred and forty.

Sunday, Memorial Day,

at Hurcell-McLean Cemetery.

D. Patterson-Hon. Pres.

D. Kennedy-Pres.

S. Griffith-Sec.

R. S. H. H.

Wardsville, Ontario



Oak Grove School, S.S.#10. Reunion 1940



E. J. Purcell,
D. F. McLean,
Mrs. Tom Dykes,
James A. McLean,
Mrs. Chas. Ashton,
Mrs. Phemia Burgess,
John Hillman,
Mr. Noah Kerr,
Mrs. Noah Kerr,



OAK GROVE

1890 - 1965

REUNION

Hello friends,

It was in 1890 that the present Oak Grove School (S.S. # 10, Aldborough) was built and this year, seventy-five years later, the doors closed on the last pupil, as we expect the new Central School will open in September. So won't you come to the last Oak Grove Reunion on Saturday, September 4th, 1965 at the school grounds? Registration - 2:30 PM. A chicken barbecue will be served from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

Adults - \$2.00, Students - \$1.00, Children - \$.75,
Pre School - free.

Program in the evening. Come and renew school-day friendships. May we also remind you that the annual Decoration Day Service at the MeLean - Purcell Cemetary will be held the following day.

To help in the arrangements, would you please detach the following and return to Mrs. Gordon Woolner, R.R.#1, Wardsville, Ontario by August 1st if possible?

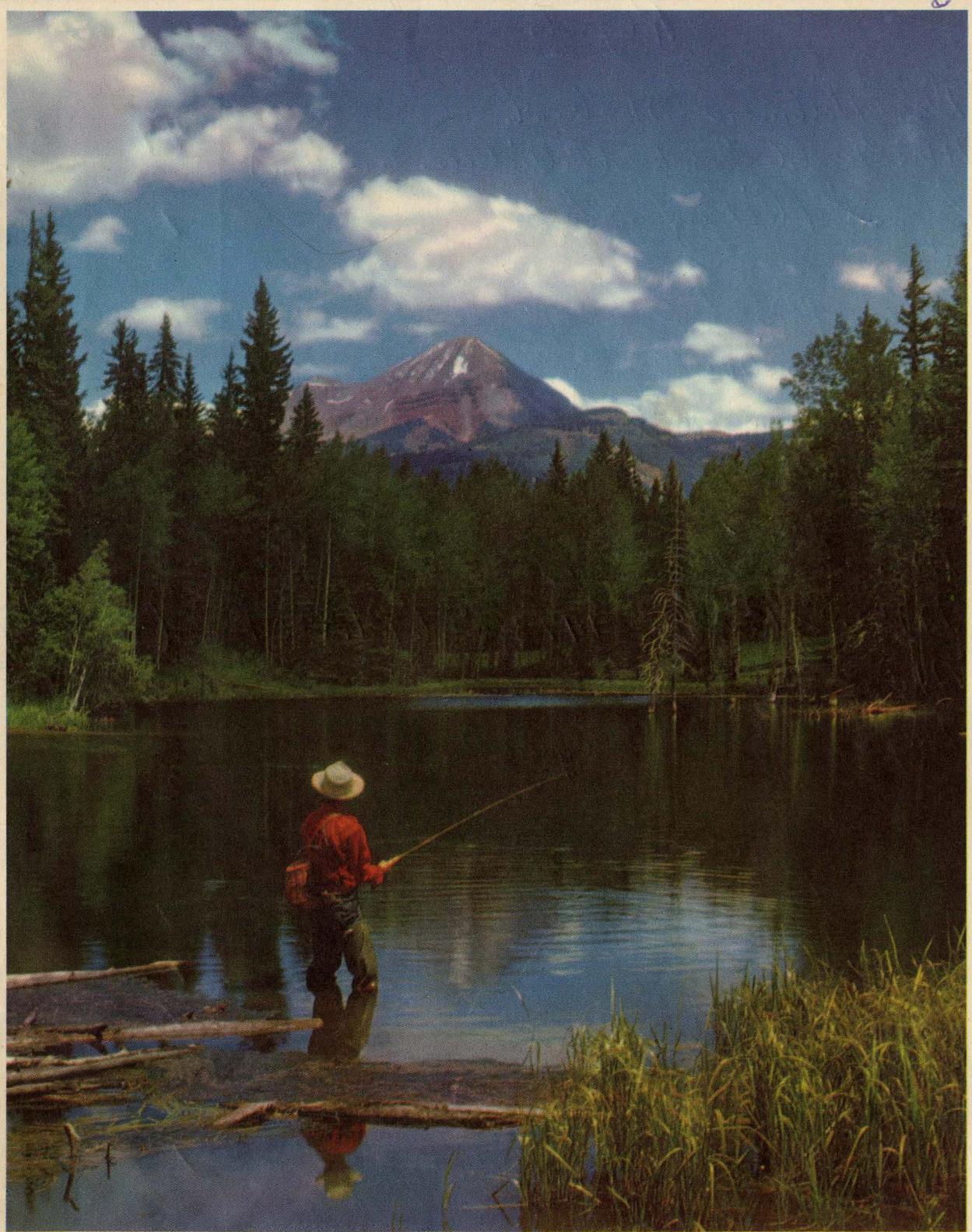
Yes, I plan to attend the Reunion.

No. adults for barbecue _____

No. children for barbecue _____

Name _____

A Record of all who attended the reunion



Hilroy 6241

FISHERMAN'S DREAM - LE RÊVE DU PÊCHEUR

This is Mrs. Gordon Woolner's record of all the families that attended the reunion 1965.

Regrets

Dan Hillman - Montreal
 Mrs. Gerald Forshee (Lillibelle McIntyre)
 Glen Schleichauf - Ottawa
 Carson Mann
 Gernet Moore
 Charles McKay
 Luella Dunn McKay } Grand Rapids
 Gladys Mae Kay (Shaw)
 Orlo Moore
 Mrs. Mary Deosnap
 Mrs. E. R. Orr - 1473 Elite Rd. Clarkson (Marion Walker)
 Maria McLean - teacher
 Hugh McColl - Niagara Falls
 Celia McRae - Mrs. McKellip

S.S. #10 Re-union

Pre-school		Adults	Children
	Gordon Stoolner	2	
	Allan Stoolner	2	2
1	Don Stright	2	4
	Angus Colquhoun	1	
	Ray Peace	2	
	Harvey Stoolner	2	
	Mrs. Clifford Brown (Shirley Brown)	2	2
	Janice Johnston	1	
	Mrs. Hallie Altridge (Mary C.)	2	
	Al Patterson	3	2
	Cecil Bergey	2	1 (S)
	Mrs. Pat Hagerty (Marjorie Kearns)	2	4
	John St. Campbell	3	
	Evelyn Gardiner	2	2 - 1(S)
	Mrs. James Ross (Doris Liddle)	2	2
	Mrs. Hugh DeGraaf	1	
	Grace Kurgin (Ellwood)	2	
	Colin Leitch	2	2
	Mrs. Ron Bell (Marion Patterson)	2	2
	Neil McPhail	2	1
	Nelson Johnston	2	3 - 1(S)
	Bert McIntyre	2	
	Lorna Gulkes	3	
2	Larry Stright	2	2
	Mrs. Mahel King	1	

Preschool	adults	Children	Preschool
3	144	51-65	4
Mary Nethercott	2	6	
Clarence McMillions	1		
Mrs Stan Humphrey (Betty Cadogan)	2	2	
Mrs Ethel Harvey	1		
Bruce Dill	2	1	
Jim Kearns	2		
Jeanette Kehler	2		
Rosella Vallance (Ashton)	2		
Worthy ^{Phony} Margaret Juffield (McDonald)	4		
Mrs Delbert Hebblethwaite (Mary Long)	1		
Mr & Mrs Walter J. Moehring (Jean Long)	2		
Mrs Mack McMaster	1		
Earl Bruce	4		
Floyd Knight	2		
Arthur Long	3	5	
Joe Kearns	2		
Bud Kearns	3		
Matt Kearns	2		
Mrs Nellie Ashton	1		
Bill Lidlin	2	3	
Jewel Moot. #2.00 Pd	1		
Mrs Rose Hatch	3		
Joe Misener #6.00 Pd	2	2	
Mrs Roy Bauerle (Jennie Ellwood)	1		

adults	Children	Preschool
192	64-68	
Bill Hellman	2	
Ron Hellman	2	
Lloyd Hellman	1	
Cameron McMillions	2	2
George Shillick #4.75 Pd	2	2
Gladys Coulson	1	25
P. J. Patterson - Regina	1	
Jim Lindsay	2	2
Rob. Lindsay		10
Harry Lidlow	2	
Art McLarty	2	
Russel McDonell	2	
Jacqueline Reitch	2	
Lyle Mann	2	2
Dow Johnston	2	3
Mrs John Hewitt	1	
Jack Mann	1	
Arthur Purcell	2	
Allan Bergoy	2	
Jessie Beaman	1	
John Purcell	2	3
Mrs Howard Sinclair	3	
Ben Mann	4	
Shelma Hinrock (Meyers)	3	

Pre school

8

Adults Children
236 78 95

Name	Adults	Children
Tom Fairbrother	4	2
Albert Guffeth	2	
2. Ted Johnston	2	
Mrs. D. L. Campbell	2	
Margaret DeGraw (Patterson)	1	
Jack Mc Intyre	2	
Mrs Harry Fisher (Gran Purcell)	1	2
Wm Hillman	2	
Yahon Chambers	2	
Art Downie	1	
Charlie Campbell	1	
15 Walter Long	2	
Len Skelkins	2	3
Rev. Duncan McColl 29 mother	3	
Shirley Walker	2	
Angus McLean	1	
Roy Howie	2	
Mrs Anna Nelson	2	
Harold Patterson	2	3
Pat Kearns	3	25
Bert Johnston	2	
Douglas Walker	1	
Jim Purcell	2	
Lorne Newport (6)	2	2 25

Adults C- S
282 99 13

Name	Adults	C-	S
Mrs & Mrs R. McPherson - Strathroy	4		
Mrs & Mrs Murray	2	2	
John Spence	1		
Mrs Ina Hardacre	1		
Hazel Scott	2		
Carl Wright	3		
Louis Watson	4	13	5
<hr/>			
	299	101	13
Hilda Jewell	3		
Allen Purcell	3		

Pay - Mercury Ad. — 2.12 Pd
" - Bothwell Times. — 1.88 Pd

Prizes \$1.85
1.00

\$2.85

Helen Doyle \$2.⁰⁰ Pd. - Returned
Donation \$4.⁰⁰ - Marjorie Brewer.

Proceeds
Reunion - 77.⁰⁰



Oak Grove closing reunion 1965,
This picture was taken by Bert
Johnston.

A short History of Oak Grove School - given by Mrs. Annie Long
at the closing of the School on September 4, 1965.

Dear Friends and school mates, - today we realize we
are parting with something old and familiar and replacing it
with the new and modern way. This school has been a land
mark for 75 years and has survived many a day's rough play
by the hundreds of children sheltered and educated within its
walls. We welcome you here, former students, to our last
reunion. Many have come a long distance to renew school-day
friendships and live again those bygone days in this country
side. For the benefit of the younger generation, let us
repeat the history of our school section.

The first school house was made of logs in 1853 on
Black's Lane near the 1st Concession then known as the
Brigam Road. It had but three windows and the chimney was
made of clay. The seats were wooden benches without backs
and there were no desks to lean on or hold their few books.
The average attendance was twenty pupils and the salary of
the first teacher, Mr. John McColl, was \$12.00 per month.
The population increased rapidly in the next few years.
Large families and many new settlers arriving, made a larger
and better school very necessary, so in 1863 a large white
frame building with two rooms on the ground floor was planned.
A more central site was chosen for the large section, still
on Black's Lane, but midway between Concession Roads 2 and 3.
The new school stood near the road and was surrounded by
beautiful oak trees which gave it the name "Oak Grove School".

During the hundred years since then the oaks have been replaced with maples, but the name remains. The actual enrollment taken by the Secretary, Mr. John McLeod in 1881 was 152. That must have been an exceptional year as the school photographs record 80 or 90 pupils and always two teachers. When the fall work was done many of the order boys returned to school for the winter months and often overshadowed the teacher. We have heard of the hickory stick and no doubt it really existed. Discipline of necessity came before the three "R'S".

Community life was centred around the School House in those days as it was the only building large enough to accomodate a crowd. Political meetings, debates, spelling bees, singing schools, and religious meetings were held here. Sunday afternoons brought a goodly number of the young folk together for Sunday School, and the Sabbath Day was observed much differently than it is today. By 1890 the old frame school had become obsolete and a new and modern one desired. Mr. Henry McKay of Clachan contracted to build this brick building for \$3,400.00. The Scott Brothers, Wm. and Robert were the carpenters and the necessary equipment was furnished by Mr. G. E. Wray of Rodney. Fuel for heating this structure has been natural gas from a well in the school yard. When it failed, wood was supplied and now the modern oil furnace has taken over. The opening ceremonies were held on January 30, 1891 and the flag that was hoisted that day had been won by a student of this school, Mr. J. A. McRae in an

Elgin County Essay Contest, the subject being "The Patriotic Influence of hoisting the Flag on the Schools". He became the Princial of the school in 1894. Because they were reared in this good farming district, the majority of boys and girls have made agriculture their livelihood, but Oak Grove has produced doctors, lawyers, ministers, teachers, and nurses in goodly number too. When world peace was threatened in 1914, many ex-pupils answered the call of our country and served courageously for the duration. Two paid the supreme sacrifice, Nelson Doyle and Fred Meyers, while others are suffering the after-effects of the struggle in impaired health. In 1940 Canada again was called on to do her share and thirteen Oak Grove boys volunteered. Two more gave their lives in the effort to conquer tyranny, - Gerald Purcell and Orville Long. We pray that never again will our young people be called upon to wage war against his fellow man, but live in peace and prosperity anywhere. We would say an expression of appreciation to all of the teachers who have guided our youth here. Your influence and efforts were most valuable, though appreciation was seldom emphasized.

Now our familiar country schools are to disappear, after one hundred and more years of continuous use and be replaced by a more progressive educational system. Knowledge is demanded in so many new subjects today that "the old order changeth" in more ways than one. In transportation of the pupils Dad's car and the bicycle will be replaced by the School Bus, which will eventually become outmoded by space

travel. Probably some of today's pupils may land on the moon and if conditions warrant it, start a real estate business there. A far-out thought now, but maybe not an impossibility. What will become of this cherished old building? Won't somebody convert it into an apartment house and fill it with ex-pupils who would like to retire in Aldborough Plains?

TEACHERS OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL *****1890.

Upper Room

Donald Thomson
J.A. Skellan
J.E. Whiting
J.A. McRae
E.C. Lumsden
Neil McPhail
Duncan Ferguson
I.A. McLean
E.H. McKone
Jean Anderson
Clara Campbell
J.E. McLarty
Nellie McDonald
Elizabeth Brennen
Ceila McRae
Maria McLean
Janet Walker
Nora Maguire
Allie Bandeen
Alister McColl
Hugh McColl
Jean Wiley
Harvey Gillies
Irvine Newcombe
Glen Schliehauf
Allan Craig
Grace Campbell
Jean Humphries

Lower Room

Miss Hoy
Florence Vining
Clementine Coleman
Florence Gesner
Flora Campbell
Rose Lee
Marion Allan
Bida Graham
Miss F.L. McLean
Cassie McLarty
Miss M.J. Smith
Florence Wilson
Ada Kennedy
Agnes Lamont
Agnes Dunacan
Helen White
Olivia Fairchild
Elva Skippen
Miss Hunchberger
Hilda Swanton
Miss E. Lightfoot
Gordon Stinson
Jessie Allan
Ila Butler
Margaret Campbell
Barbara Graham
Allan Craig
Miss Sabin
Francis Whalls
Nancy Taylor

TEACHERS OF OAK GROVE SCHOOL ***** 1890 - 1965(cont'd)

Upper Room

Frances Whalls (1943)

Mrs. Jennie Fleming (1954-1958)

Miss R. Lysenko

Mrs. Eva Patterson

Lower Room

Miss Atkinson

Mr. Murray Squires

Mr. Alex McColl

Mr. Paul Baker

Mrs. Alice Paton

Mrs. Dorothy Degraw

Mrs. Barbara Fisher

Mrs. Dorothy Degraw

Mrs. Jack Dobson

Mrs. Percy Nethercott

Mrs. Janet Quinton

Mrs. Coulson (1965)



S.S. No 10
ALDBOROUGH



1891

RAISE THE FLAG!
Prize Essay By J.A. McRae.

In the selection of this subject "The Patriotic Influence of Hoisting the Flag on the Schools" I must say that a subject could hardly be chosen that is so much in harmony with my feelings; feelings that send a thrill of rapture through my veins whenever the subject CANADA or anything pertaining to Canada is introduced. In hoisting the flag on the schools, ~~owe the pupils of~~ the public schools of Canada as we gaze upon its folds waving in the breeze will look back with pride and think of the banner for which many of our forefathers of Ontario left homes, wealth and high positions in order that they might still live under its protection: we will think of the hardships and sufferings with which they had to contend in the founding not only of this province, but also the other parts of this fair Dominion of ours. We will see a banner which has always been ready to help the oppressed and punish the oppressor.

With a feeling of pride we read of Cressy and Poitiers, of Inkermann and Balaclava, but who when he thinks of that memorable battle of Waterloo will not feel exalted that this glorious battle was fought and won. We will also be led to think of scenes nearer home such as Lundy's Lane and Queenston Heights, when the Union Jack was again triumphant and every attempt to subjugate us was resisted. With the flag on the schools the pupils will learn to love and cherish it, and that feeling will continue to grow as the years roll on, and before another score of years have passed we will have in Canada men that are true Canadians, men who will live in Canada because it is Canada, and who will not emigrate to some foreign country in preference to ours. We will find men who are patriotic, men who, if ever the day should come when they would be required for defence of their country, would willingly offer themselves, or if need be lay down their lives in its behalf. Who can think merely of himself or a province when he knows that this flag holds sway from the Atlantic to the Pacific, binding together the people of the several provinces, and creating in each an equal interest in the welfare of the nations? Search creation round where can you find a country that has such a glorious future before it. What great resources! What noble institutions! Our educational system is second to none on the globe, but with all these we achieve great ends; and by "hoisting the flag on the schools" I know of no better way in which this enthusiasm would be inculcated. The youth in beholding it will be led to study more history of his native

RAISE THE FLAG
cont'd By J.A. McRae.

country, he will prize his motherland more highly, his patriotism
will be kindled, and he will grow up to,

Forever bless the land that gave him birth,
A land where freedom loves to dwell
The happiest land on earth.

RAISE THE FLAG

Raise the Flag, our glorious banner,
O'er this fair Canadian land,;
From the stern Atlantic Ocean
To the far Pacific strand.

Chorous.

Raise the Flag o'er Oak Grove School House,
'Tis the banner of the free!
Brightly gleaming, proudly streaming,
'Tis the Flag of Liberty!

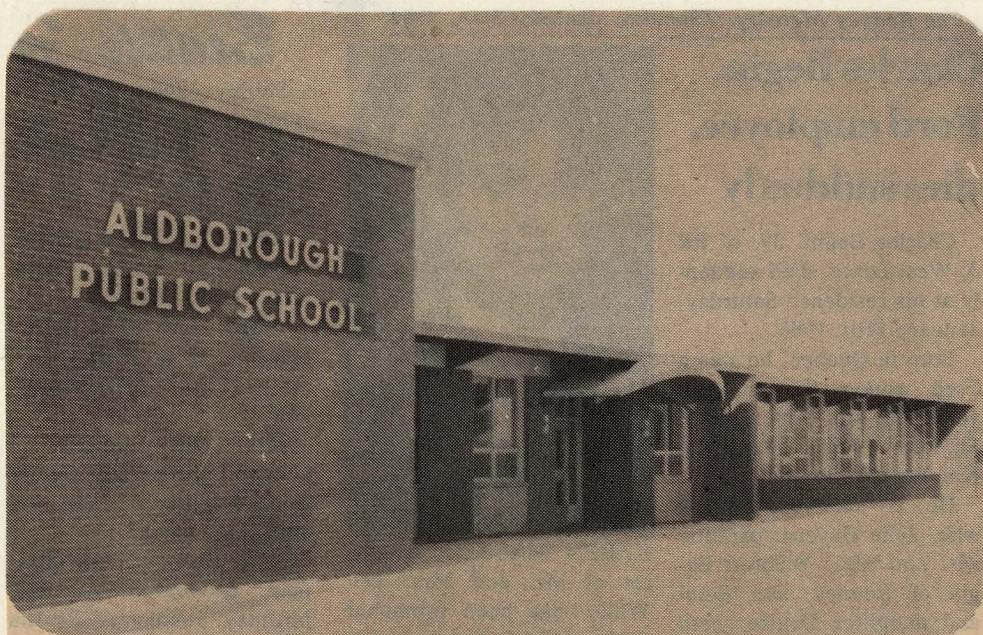
Raise the Flag o'er this and vaney,
Let it wave from sea to sea;
Flag of Canada and Britain,
Flag of right and liberty!__Cho.

Raise the Flag, and, with the banner,
Shouts of triumph let us raise ;
Sons of Canada will guard it,
And her daughters sing its praise!__Cho.

Raise the Flag of the Dominion,
That the world may understand,
This will be our ensigny,
In this broad Canadian land,__ Cho.

Raise the Flag! Who dare assail it,
Guarded by the Empire's Might?
Raise the Flag of our Dominion,
Stand for Country, God and Right!__Cho.





Aldborough Public School immediately prior to the official opening in January 1966



Bill Davis officially opened Aldborough Public School in January 1966 when he was Minister of Education. Pictured with him is the school board's secretary-treasurer Vincent Black, Mr. Davis, local Member of

Parliament, Jack Spence, Richard Whittington, chairman of the Chatham Board of Education and Director of the Ontario Public School Teachers' Ass'n., who presented a Bible to Trustee Maurice Mistele.

King & County



Their Majesties
The KING and QUEEN

Compliments of T. EATON Co. LIMITED, 1939

School Section No. 10 (Oak Grove) Pupils who fought
for our Country in World War 1 - 1914 - 1918

Alex Wright (Sig.)

Delbert Patterson Pte.

Dan Hillman (Lieut. Colonel)

Kelso Carson (Flight Lieut. R.C.A.F.)

Errett Purcell (Captain)

Ross Doyle (Gunner)

Nelson Doyle (Paid the Supreme Sacrifice)

Fred Meyer (Paid the Supreme Sacrifice)

Duncan Patterson

Albert Patterson

Archie Patterson

Edward Long

Harvey Woolner

Ben Mann

Carson Mann

Fred Mann

Edward Meyer

Earl Peace

Neil Ferguson

Joseph Kearns

Harvey McColl

Russell McColl

John McColl

Earl McColl

Roy Downie

James Tunks



The Imperial Crown is worn by the Queen in a photo taken in Buckingham Palace Throne Room after her Coronation. The Duke of Edinburgh wears his uniform of the Admiral of the Fleet.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2nd.
Crowned June 2, 1953.

School Section No. 10 (Oak Grove) Pupils who fought for
our Country in World War 2 - 1940 - 1945

Dr. T. P. Kearns

Lyle Liddle

Raymond Turk

Albert Griffith

Jack Griffith

George Willick

Albert Willick

Jack Wilkins

George Wilkins

William Wilkins

Gordon Long - R.C.A.F.

Raymond Long - R.C.A.F.

Killed in action - 1944

Gerald Purcell

Orville Long

EARLY BEGINNINGS OF ALDBOROUGH

By Mrs. Nellie Ashton

Elgin County's most western township, Aldborough, where the Gaelic was the predominant language during much of the first half of the 19th. century, because of the prevalence of so many settlers from the Scottish Highlands, is our home township and we are proud to belong to the Clachan community.

Aldborough has always been looked upon as Elgin's most Scottish township and yet the name is for Aldborough, a town in Suffolk, England. However, the Scottish influence is shown in her place names of Clachan, Kintyre and Crinan. History tells us that Aldborough and Dunwich townships suffered in development and population largely from the fact that Colonel Thomas Talbot founder of the Talbot Settlement, reserved those townships for settlers on his own land grants. He was, presumably, holding these government lands for better prices than those at which he was authorized to sell government lots. In consequence by 1845 Aldborough had only 4500 acres of land under cultivation with a population of few more than 700 persons, chiefly Highland Scots.

Furnival road had been cut through the township from Lake Erie to the Thames River and there were four saw-mills. Outside of this development by 1850 most of Aldborough was still pretty much virgin forest and wilderness.

It seems impossible to us now that in early times the pioneers had their cattle killed by wolves, their pigs by bears and their grain destroyed by wild turkeys, raccoons and black squirrels. Rattlesnakes were very numerous but only four settlers were bitten, each saved by copious draughts of the concoction of hour-hound and plaintain, and pressing salt pork on the wound. Pioneer commerce consisted inclusively of barter; gold, silver and bank promises were unknown. In 1831 was the first that cash paid for wheat.

In early days, the pioneer wore no shoes in summer. Even at their meetings for worship on Sunday, ministers and congregations, old and young were bare-footed but in winter wore shoes of home-tanned leather. The clothing worn for bed and body was home-made of flax and wool of their own growing. Man's head-dress in summer was a straw hat and in winter a coon-skin cap, all made at home.

The tea used was the fragrant spice-wood and the aromatic sassafras. The coffee, a toasted piece of bread. All the sugar, molasses, vinegar and soap used was procured from the maple tree.

EARLY BEGINNINGS OF ALDBOROUGH
con't By Mrs. Nellie Ashton

In pioneer days, the only farming implements were the axe, sickle and flail. They had no horses, often went long journeys on foot over trails or very bad roads. They went 35 or 40 miles a day, carrying their provisions, consisting of a hand-mill, bread and some maple sugar, on their backs. At night many of them slept on a tavern floor before the fire, with a turned-up chair for their pillow having no money, not even six pence for a bed.

In former days the pioneers wore only clothes that had been carded, spun, woven and colored by thrifty wives and industrious daughters, whose only music was the whirring sound of the spinning-wheel and their own melodious songs.

Aldborough and our School Section number ten has the honour of having the first white family to settle in what is now Elgin County. He was James Fleming, who settled on lot 6, B.F. between three and four miles from Clachan in 1796, the year before the first Aldborough Township survey was made. Prior to the Fleming settlement on the South side of the Thames River, the Moravian Missionaries founded a settlement on the North side of the river in 1791 - a settlement that ended in tragedy.

James Fleming, we are told came originally from Fort Erie. He made several trips by sailing ships to Detroit with Governor Simcoe, and is said to have been so impressed by the beauty of the scenery along the Thames River that he decided to make his home there. And so in 1796 Fleming built a log hut on the south side of the river and moved there with his wife, the former Barbara Windecker and two daughters Hannah 2 years old and Dolly one.

One of the stories Mrs. Fleming was fond of relating was in regard to the first tree her husband felled. He asked her to come into the woods to see his first effort in that direction and she remembered carrying her baby in her arms and leading the other child by the hand. A son Henry Fleming was born here on March 23rd, 1796, the first white child born in Elgin County. A second son was born here on March 23rd, 1800 and claimed Aldborough as his birthplace. In a written statement made by him in 1852, regarding the Battle of the Thames, he states that he was on the battle-field the day after the fight and was then past thirteen years old. Mrs. Fleming used to relate that some time after their settlement here they were visited in 1804 by the Rev. Bangs, which would indicate that their settlement was at least before

EARLY BEGINNINGS OF ALDBOROUGH

con't By Mrs. Nellie Ashton

that of Colonel Talbot who came to Dunwich in 1803. The land survey made just after their settlement was incorrect, this was the Survey of 1797 when Concession 1, 2 and 3 were laid out from the west line.

In the war of 1812 Fleming and his family were driven from the eir home by the invading army of General Harrison. Their home was burned and the family was forced to flee to the Moravian Mission where they took shelter for a time. After this the Flemings settled in Dawn township. Later they returned to the old home on the banks of the Thames River where James Fleming died in September 1838 and was buried in a private burying ground on the homestead, at the age of 78 years. This inscription may be examined on the marker in the cemetery. His wife Barbara died on September 7th, 1862 at the age of 88 years and was buried in the same cemetery.

They builded better than they knew, and the country in which they reared their humble dwelling is now the home of 40,000 prosperous and intelligent people, while the direct descendents of these brave pioneers are numbered among the most respected members of the community.

In 1875 Samuel Snyder of Waterloo County purchased from Robert Fleming the east half of lot 6, concession 1 and in 1877 Duncan Taylor purchased the west half from James W. Fleming moving there in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Alderton and family own this property now.

It is difficult to visualize the Aldborough of James Fleming's day with the progressive and prosperous township and school section of to-day, with its wide grain fields, orchards, sleek cattle. it's flue cured or burley tobacco and its rich oil-fields of the present time.

It must have been a lonely land when the next white settlers arrived in 1831, from Caledonia, New York. After the war of 1812 they decided to move to a country where they could still live under British flag. Their reception by Colonel Talbot was not a cordial one but were finally given lots and Alexander Forbes, Archibald Gillis and Neil Haggart left a rich heritage for those who followed. In 1813 also, the families of F. McDiarmid and Donald McEwen came. Mr Mc Diarmid was at harvest time confined to his house with ague and unable to harvest an acre and a half of wheat,,his only dependence for his winter bread. More then that there was no sickle to cut it with

EARLY BEGINNINGS OF ALDBOROUGH

con't By Mrs Nellie Ashton

but courage and industry will overcome many difficulties. His faithful wife cut it all with a butcher knife, threshed the grain and ground it in a hand-mill to feed her two infant children, sick husband and herself. This heroic woman died in September 1878 aged ninety years and eleven months.

From 1848 to 1862 the following people arrived in our Section. On the Second Concession, Samuel Carson in 1849.

Philip Kearns in 1850. Colin McPherson in 1855.

On the Third Concession.

Archibald Purcell.....1848.	Duncan McColl.....1853.
Dugald McLean.....1850.	John Kennedy.....1854.
Patrick Doyle.....1850.	Angus Colquhoun.....1859.
Duncan Ferguson.....1850.	William Graham.....1860.
James Hillman.....1852.	George Lindsay.....1862.
Neil McLarty.....1853.	Murdoch McLeod.
James Fisher.....1852.	

On the Fourth Concession.

Duncan McLean.....1850.
John Campbell.....1850..

On the Fourth Concession.

Duncan McLean.....1850.	John McDonald.....1851.
John Campbell.....1850.	Duncan McPhail.....1858.

And in the next few years on the First Concession - Snyders, Taylors, Patons, Smiths, Manns, Wileys and Dills.

On the Second Concession, Leitchs and Kings.

On the Third Concession, Johnstons and Woolners.

On the Fourth Concession, Allens and Moores.

Descendants of these pioneer families are still living in the community.

The early pioneers took an active part in religion and education and not only did they blaze their trails through the unbroken forests but they blazed a trail in the journey of life to worthwhile achievements for the uplift of the community and to the Glory of God. The fallen torch was quickly lifted by others who have carried on, down through the years.

Local History

Judging the plow teams after the
Ploughing Match at Arthur Purcells
farm Concession 3, Aldborough.
October 1948





TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE OFFICIALS met with Elgin's new planning commissioner, Carl Altenberg of London, last Tuesday night in Rodney council chambers, where officials of all three local municipalities were given an insight into what is involved in local plan-

ning for future industrial and population expansion. Checking aerial photos with Mr. Altenberg, are: Aldborough Reeve Gordon Woolner, Rodney Reeve Victor DeGraw, Aldborough Deputy-reeve Duncan Gilchrist and West Lorne Reeve Douglas Todd.

WEST ELGIN NEWS

Jan. 1966.

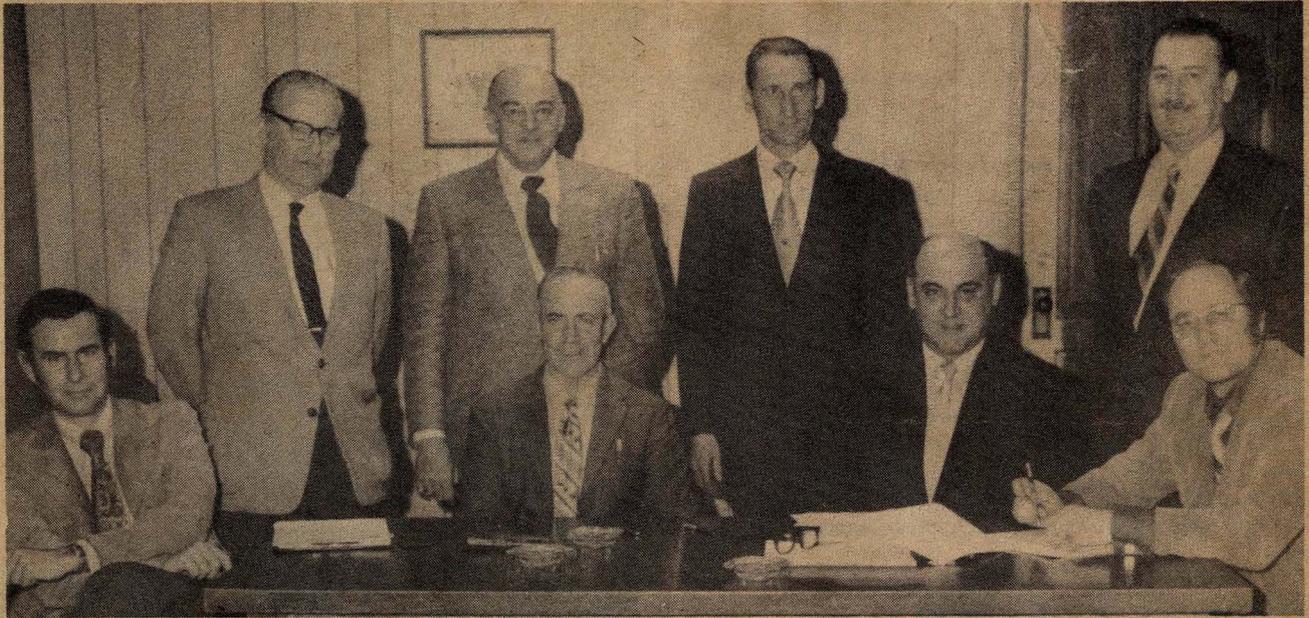
ELGIN • NORFOLK



ALDBOROUGH INAUGURAL MEETING — Members of the Aldborough Township Council held their inaugural meeting in the township offices in Rodney yesterday. Rev. C. B. Heckendorn, of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, Rodney, officiated at the opening ceremonies. Seated left

to right are: Gerald Hessenauer, roads superintendent; Duncan Gilchrist, deputy reeve; Gordon Woolner, reeve, and Charles Black, clerk. Standing are: Don McKillop, councillor; Nelson Johnston, councillor; Mr. Heckendorn, and Douglas Schleihauf, councillor.—(T.-J. Photo)

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PLANNING WEST ELGIN is now in the hands of this group of reeves, councillor, clerk, planner and civil servant. The group posed for this picture at Thursday night's meeting in Dutton Community Hall, where it was decided to proceed with a \$15,000 plan for future residential and industrial expansion. Seated: Planner Steve Janes of the James F. MacLaren Co., London, Dupwich Reeve Colin

Morrison, Ald. Reeve Nelson Johnston, and Dept. of Planning and Development official John Longworth, who made the survey of the area from which the plan will be developed. Standing: Rodney Reeve Albert Leibner, Aldborough Clerk C. I. Black, Dutton Reeve Al Khant and West Lorne's representative, Councillor Ronald Ross.

Mercury-Sun photo



THE JOHNSTON FAMILY was on hand Tuesday afternoon at county council when their husband and father was made warden. Left to right, they are: Robert, daughter-in-law Gerogina, John, Willa, Warden Nelson, Dave and Joanne.

Reeve Nelson Johnston unopposed for warden

Aldborough Reeve Nelson Johnston was unopposed Tuesday afternoon in his bid for Elgin's Wardenship. It was the first time the township has had the honor since 1955, when Philip Schlehauf was elected warden.

A number of friends, acquaintances and his family, attended the session to witness the ceremony.

So many attended county council had to move to the courtroom to accommodate the crowd.

When nominations for the wardenship were called by County Clerk Harley Johnston, only Reeve Johnston presented papers. When no other nomination was received, the clerk called Nels to take the oath of office.

CEREMONY

His "gowning" was officiated over by retiring warden John W. Hodgson of Springfield. Presentations of the honorary gold watch and gavel were also made by Mr. Hodgson.

Following a short address by the new warden, council returned to its chambers, where a short business session was conducted and adjournment was moved to celebrate the victory at the Grand Central Hotel.

The following is Warden Johnston's maiden address to county council:
Gentlemen:

I am humbly grateful for the honour you have given

me in choosing me as your warden for 1973, and I know the people of Aldborough are both pleased and proud that you have seen fit to recognize our township. I intend to do my very best to fulfill the heavy duties of this office and to work for the best interests of our county and all its citizens.

I congratulate Past Warden Hodgson for having led us through 1972 in a very successful way and I extend the thanks of this council to him for his dili-

gent and thoughtful attention to the county's business.

To all Past Wardens, members of councils and guests, who are with us today, I extend a warm welcome. I am sure council appreciates your continuing interest in the affairs of the county.

1972 being a year for municipal elections, we have a number of changes in the personnel of county council. Regretfully, we note that some Reeves and deputies are no longer with us. However, we realize change

is a part of the nature of government and the thanks of this council are extended to these past members for their contribution and service to Elgin. As we say "farewell" to some we welcome our new members to council.

Provincial government program for re-structuring municipal governments is of concern to all of us and while we realize changes need to occur, these changes must be carefully examined so that they benefit everyone but do not lose some of the historical and traditional assets we have enjoyed over the years in our county.

The contribution made by the city-county committee on local government and its thoughtful and well prepared response to the provincial paper on prospects for the Erie Region has been very helpful.

I am sure the city and the county will continue to work together so whatever changes do occur will be of real benefit to our people.

Land has been purchased by the county for another "manor" at Aylmer and I hope this project can move ahead in 1973 so needs of citizens for this type of care in the eastern part of the county can be fairly met.

No doubt we will have our problems in 1973, as we have had in the past -- rising costs, inflation and

Continued on page 9



REEVE NELSON JOHNSTON took the oath of office before officially becoming Warden of Elgin Tuesday afternoon at the opening of the January session of county council in the Court House, St. Thomas. At right is County Clerk Harley Johnston.

Warden feted at banquet Friday eve.

Aldborough's reeve and Elgin's Warden, Nelson Johnston, was honored Friday night by county councillors, county and municipal officials and friends at the annual Warden's banquet in St. Thomas Labor Temple.

Over 250 attended and heard tributes paid Warden Johnston and saw him presented with a gold watch, the traditional gift of council. Mrs. Johnston was also remembered with a bouquet of roses, which she admitted was her first.

Among dignitaries present were John and Mrs. Wise and Ronald McNeil. A telegram was read from Jack Spence, reporting his inability to be present, but congratulating Warden Johnston. Wardens from neighboring counties, together with some of their officials and wives, as well as wives of county councillors, county and municipal officials and other guests, also attended.

HEAD TABLE

Head table guests included John Wise, MP for Elgin; Ron McNeil, MPP for Elgin; Don Stokes, St. Thomas alderman and acting mayor and Forrest F. Moore, Mayor of Aylmer, and Rev. George Lewis of Kintyre Presbyterian Church who gave the blessing.

Ross Whalls, deputy-reeve of Port Stanley, introduced the head table and was followed by Reeve Bruce Lyle of Southwold, who introduced the county councillors and their wives. Continued on page 5



WARDEN NELSON JOHNSTON RECEIVED A GOLD WATCH AND MRS. JOHNSTON a bouquet of red roses at Friday night's Warden's Banquet held for 264 in St. Thomas' Labor Temple. The watch is the traditional gift of county council to the warden, which are always presented at the banquet held to honor the warden otherwise as well. Mrs. Johnston said the bouquet was the first she had ever received.

Warden's Banquet

Continued from page 1
EX-WARDENS

Reeve Doug Todd introduced the ex-wardens, some of whom are still on council. They were John D. Thompson (1935); William Locke (1937); Fred Shrively (1946); James McBain (1947); Archie Coulter (1948); Ronald K. McNeil (1952); Ken Williamson (1954); J. B. Wilson (1958); Harvey Little (1960); Charles Phillips (1962); K. C. Emerson (1963); Russell McKibbin (1964); Donald Leitch (1965); John McKinley (1966); Bruce McCallum (1968); John Wise (1969); William Caverly (1970); Doug. Todd (1971) and Jack Hodgson who was warden last year.

SPEAKERS

Mr. Wise, Mr. McNeil, Mr. Stokes and Mayor Moore addressed the gathering, bringing greetings from their various governments and councils and all had special words of praise for the guest of honor Mr. Johnston and for his wife and family.

Yarmouth Reeve David Cook was chairman for the evening and his wife presented a bouquet of red roses to Mrs. Johnston.

Last year's Warden Jack Hodgson, Reeve of Springfield, presented a watch to Warden Johnston in recognition of the work he has done throughout 1973.

THANKS

In a brief speech, Warden Johnston thanked every-

one for attending the banquet and conveyed his special appreciation to members of county council whom he said, had taught him a lot about municipal life during his year in office.

He also introduced members of his immediate family including his mother and two brothers.

Following the banquet, dancing was held from 9 to 1.

Reeve Cook was very pleased with the turnout for the banquet.

This year's banquet operated under somewhat of a handicap as only 264 people could be invited because of space limitations. There is no facility now available in the county which will accommodate the large crowds (up to 1,500) who have attended warden's banquets in the past. But this year's affair did not appear to suffer in any way because of a smaller number of guests.



LADIES' CENTENNIAL COSTUMES at the Agricultural Society's Ball, in Rodney Community Hall, last Wednesday night, were in such profusion, quality, style, and color, it was difficult for judges to determine winners, but they decided on Mrs. Bruce Fowkes, third from the right, as the winner.

Others in the competition were: Mrs. Phil. Schleichauf, Mrs. Eva Newport, Mrs. Alex. King, Chatham, Mrs. John Boam, Bothwell, Mrs. Fowkes, Mrs. Ern. Fairles, and Mrs. Allan Woolner.

Mr. + Mrs. John Campbell were named Centennial King + Queen at the 100th anniversary of Rodney Baptist Church.

Update of Tweedsmuir History

Mrs. John Campbell was surprised on Sunday, September 19, 1976, when she was named Centennial Queen at the 100th anniversary of Rodney Baptist Church. She was presented with a crown and a bouquet of roses and carnations. She will be 90 years of age, on her next birthday.

Mr Campbell was unable to attend due to illness.

The Alexander Campbell Family

A good deal has been written these past few years on the history of Aldborough. The Elgin Historical Society and the Women's Institutes have had a number of papers prepared, and recently the Aldborough Old Boys have published a book with a lot of general information, but each family have their own peculiar traditions, and I am only sorry that I have not been able to get more, regarding the lives of our pioneer grandparents, Alexander and Catherine Campbell.

Our grandparents were born in the same house in Argyleshire, Scotland, in the year 1808, and were both Campbells, but not related. Grandfather was a few months older, and his mother took grandmother, when an infant, a few days old, to have her christened.

At the age of ten they were brought to this country by their parents, who were induced to come through letters received from the Gillies, who had settled here two years previously. They were among those families who arrived at New Glasgow in 1818.

It must have required great courage to leave one's country and friends, and go out into a great unknown. I have been told that when the ship, "The Mars of Port Glasgow" was nearly ready to leave, one of our great-grandfathers went with his brother, with whom he was parting forever, behind a lumber-pile, and they exchanged their entire clothing, in memory of each other, for they knew they were not likely to ever see each other again.

The ship was a sailing vessel, and took about three months to cross the Atlantic. The captain's name was McFarlane, and once they got 250 miles out of their course, when they were put right by another captain by the name of Kerr, who was coming to settle in this country.

When they called at Quebec they were able to report the same number aboard as when they left Scotland, for although there had been a death at sea, there had also been a birth.

I don't know whether it was at Quebec or Montreal they had to be transferred to another boat, and when they found that that boat was propelled by steam they held a consultation as to whether it was safe to ride on it or not. However, they ventured after some persuasion, and came on to Toronto. They were offered land around Hamilton, but they had heard of the Talbot settlement, where they were supposed to get 100 acres of land each.

Just how they crossed the Niagara Peninsula I have not been able to find out. The construction of the Welland Canal had begun a few years before, but it was not passable, so they probably went partly on foot and partly by canoe.

They landed at Port Glasgow in October, 1818, only to be disappointed by getting just 50 acres of land each.

The next few years, they had to endure great hardships, but the first winter was perhaps the worst. It was too late in the season to get houses built, so most of them lived in huts, patterned after the Indian ones - just a shelter covered with bark, and on the open side, a fire was always kept burning, Both for warmth and protection from wild animals. I have been told that our great grandparents laid in a great store of nuts, (particularly chestnuts) for food that first winter.

Speaking of fire - I believe it was a common practice among the pioneers to borrow, or perhaps I had better say get fire from each other if their fire happened to go out.

Grandfather's father settled at Eagle, and was only in this country two years when he died, leaving his wife and 6 small children. He was buried in New Glasgow cemetery.

Four years later, our grandfather, then a boy of 16, walked down to the Niagara Peninsula, and worked for three seasons on the Welland Canal. He was so young that he was offered the position of time-keeper, but as he had no education, he went to work with the older men. I have heard it said that he made a resolution that if ever he had children of his own he would try to give them an education. His resolution was carried out. Practically every one of his nine

children had a better education than the average pioneer child, two of them were P.S. teachers, two more could have qualified, and Grandfather himself learned to be a very good reader in both English and Gaelic. He was taught by Grandmother after they were married. Her father was a teacher in the old country, and we still have in our possession a slate brought from Scotland, which was used by all the members of the family. The chief text-book in the early days was the Bible.

Our grandmother also spent three years at service away from home. I think it was in the town of St. Catherines. She and a neighbor girl tied their few possessions in a parcel, and in their bare feet walked all the way, staying at night with the settlers en route. At the end of a year, she was so homesick she came home with a neighbor boy who had gone down on horseback. His name was Gillies. They took turns at riding and walking.

In these years spent by both of our grandparents away from home, they saved enough from their meagre earnings to provide many things for their future home; and learned many things which were afterwards to serve them a good purpose.

Grandfather was one of the first settlers on the first concession. He bought his farm in 1831. A story has been handed down that when he was making his first trip to the river, night overtook him, for following a blazed trail from one high ridge to another to avoid swamps was tedious travelling. He unfastened his oxen and tied them to his jumper or sleigh. He built a fire and settled down for the night, but before long, some prowling wolves smelt the meat and provisions he had with him, and surrounded him. He pounded his axe and iron wedge together to frighten them, and also fought them off with fire-brands all night, until when it began to get daylight, they went away.

Our grandparents were married just 100 years ago, on April 23rd, 1833, by Elder Dugald Campbell, and on May 1st, which was also Grandfather's birthday, they went to the river. When Grandmother went as a bride to her new home, her possessions piled in the jumper sleigh, she followed behind in her bare feet, for it was spring and the ground was marshy and well - there were no rubbers then.

Grandfather prided himself on being a good axe-man, and his log house, stable, and pens for his stock, were well built for the times. They were not well enough built, however, to prevent bears on more than one occasion, climbing to the roof of a pen, clawing away the slade covering, getting in and destroying both pigs and calves. Grandfather was an excellent swimmer, and also good with a canoe, which served him many a good purpose along the river.

Our grandparents were both thrifty and were blessed with good health. There were no medical doctors available for many years, and they had 11 children, 9 of whom grew up and lived to a mature age. In those days, when sickness came, neighbors cared for each other, and it was wonderful the knowledge some of them gained of available remedies for common ills.

Before tanneries were established in the new towns, which began to spring up, Grandfather used to tan his own leather, with lye and oak bark, and Uncle Dan, the oldest son, when quite a boy, learned to be a very fair shoemaker.

Grandmother, like most pioneer women, understood the preparation of wool and flax, washing, picking, carding, dyeing and spinning it into yarn. She never wove her own cloth, but she prided herself on her knitting of socks and mitts, and on the care of woolen goods, of which she had some very fine pieces, particularly fine white woolen for her own undergarments, her plaids for the men's shirts, and her splendid blue and white or red and white counterpanes.

Their first garden and grain was planted between the stumps, sown by hand and cut with a sickle or large knife. The grain was threshed out with a flail and tossed in the wind until it was cleaned, and before the grist mills were established it was ground in a home-made mortar - a beach block with a deep hollow in the end of it, and a round-headed mallet to serve as a pounder. When the grain was broken up it was put through sieves, the finest used for bread and the next for porridge. For many years salt-rising bread was used, later to be replaced by hop-rising, and later still, by other methods. Our grandmother never used any other than the salt-rising method.

The first apple orchard our grandparents had was grown by them from the apple seeds, and the first peach orchard (perhaps the first in Aldborough) was grown by Grandmother from peach pits.

The first plough Grandfather had, he walked over to his old home at Eagle and got the clumsy irons off an old plough. They weighed 100 lbs., but he put them in a bag and carried them on his shoulders all the way home. He then made the wood parts and assembled it.

Grandfather, and later some of his sons, excelled in making ox-yokes, wooden rakes, harrows, flails, brooms, handles, etc.

Our pioneer grandparents worked long hours. I have been told that one fall evening when Grandfather was late in coming in to supper, Grandmother working by candlelight and the light of the fireplace, while getting the meat, noticed her two small boys, who were playing in the open doorway, trying to coax what they evidently thought was the dog, to come into the house. When she stepped over to see she found it was a huge black bear.

Another story is told of two boys of the family a few years later. They had been sent down the river to bring home the cows. There were not many fences then, so cattle and hogs particularly roamed at large. It was a custom for each herd of cattle to have a bell on the neck of one of them, so they could be more easily located, and soon each family got to know their own bell. The boys located the cattle down at the hog-back opposite Cashmere. They had turned them around, when suddenly the cattle became disturbed, and began re-arranging themselves. They had sighted two wolves quite close at hand. Being pioneer children, they were wise enough to get into the centre of the herd, where the calves and weaker ones were quickly placed, while the large strong ones with horns arranged themselves on the outside ready for battle. However the wolves did not attack, and the herd with the two boys in their midst got safely home.

One of the big events in the lives of the pioneers on the river Thames was the oil excitement at Bothwell about 1863, and another outstanding event was the building of the dam at Cashmere. Grandfather's farm, on account of it's location and river-banks was a great place for watering logs. My own father, Thomas, earned his first money as a boy of 14. He was time-keeper for the men who were watering logs. He got 25 cents per day, and he told me he was the proudest boy in Canada, when with \$1.75 earned by himself he got his first pair of store boots, which were the first boots he ever had that were really his own. Being one of the younger members of the family he always had second hand ones, but he always added, "unlike some other pioneer children, we always had some kind of good boots, and good socks for winter" for Grandmother looked well to the comfort of her children as far as she was able.

Our grandparents paid for about 600 acres of land, which they gave to their sons, and they also bought two lots at New Glasgow, which at that time gave promise of becoming a city. Those lots have been, for many years now, covered with water, or out in the lake.

Grandfather was a Liberal in politics and an early subscriber to the Globe newspaper and the Southern Countie's Journal, as the Times Journal was first called. He was also one of the first members of the Aldboro Agricultural Society.

Our grandparents were followers of the Covenanted Baptist Church, and once Grandmother tied one of her children, (a baby of 8 months) on her back and walked to Eckford, a distance of 16 or 18 miles, to church, leaving early Saturday morning.

Hospitality was something in which they prided themselves. Grandfather was always friendly with the Indians, and no tramp was ever turned from his door. The Indians were never refused permission to sleep at his fireplace, when they were overtaken by a storm, or darkness when en route between Muncey and Moravian-town. In turn, they would often leave a piece of venison, and on more than one occasion helped him to locate straying animals. They further showed their friendship when many years afterwards, when they established the Moravian Fair, Uncle Archie was asked to be a judge of stock at their first fair.

When our grandparents had been married 50 years, and were living comfortably in the large frame house, their children gave them a surprise by all coming home, and having a nice picnic dinner with them in their fine orchard. There were 9 families and over forty grandchildren.

As far as I have been able to learn, our people were not superstitious,

as most Scotch pioneers were. When the ague was bad among the settlers, and the myrn and black-leg broke out among the cattle, they attributed it to natural causes, and set about to remedy conditions.

The first school attended by the family was located on the corner of the first concession and the Furnival road. Later, on the day on which Uncle Dugald was born 81 years ago, a good log school-house was built on the Martin Knoll, about a half a mile from Grandfather's house. Grandfather took up one corner, and Uncle Dan the other, and of course, no bee, or community gathering could be properly celebrated without the usual Scotch whiskey.

This building proved to be a real community centre. Religious services, political meetings, debates and singing schools were held there, as well as the regular school, and many a pioneer child went out into the world, quite well equipped with the knowledge gained there.

Many of the teachers boarded with Grandmother, for it was a custom for the teacher to board among the pupils, and as Grandfather had so many children attending school, and was so close, they had the teacher a good deal of the time.

This rambling story would hardly be right without mention of an English girl by the name of Katie Barret, who lived with the family many years, and who Grandfather taught to speak Gaelic. Our aunts, Mary and Flora, went into domestic service when quite young, and then married, so Grandmother in the latter years of her life always kept a hired girl, as they were then called.

Uncle Dugald, who is present here to-day, is the last living member of the family. He told me a little story recently, about how he and my father, when small boys, went into the store-room when all the rest of the family were away, and with chisel and hammer, they helped themselves to a generous piece of maple sugar from the edge of a large cake. They then turned the cake around with it's broken edge to the wall. After they did it, they were afraid, but it was not discovered for months after. There were no chocolate bars, or ice-cream or gingerale those days, but children loved sweet things then, just the same as now, and what could be better than good tamarack gum, and maple sugar, and what joy and excitement when they discovered a bee tree well filled with honey.

Our grandparents and most of our parents are gone. They have left us a wonderful heritage. They were truly builders of our nation. They have left their imprint. May all that was good in them live on through us.

Further to the topic of school. The teacher's salary was $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat for each pupil and a first reader cost one bushel of wheat.

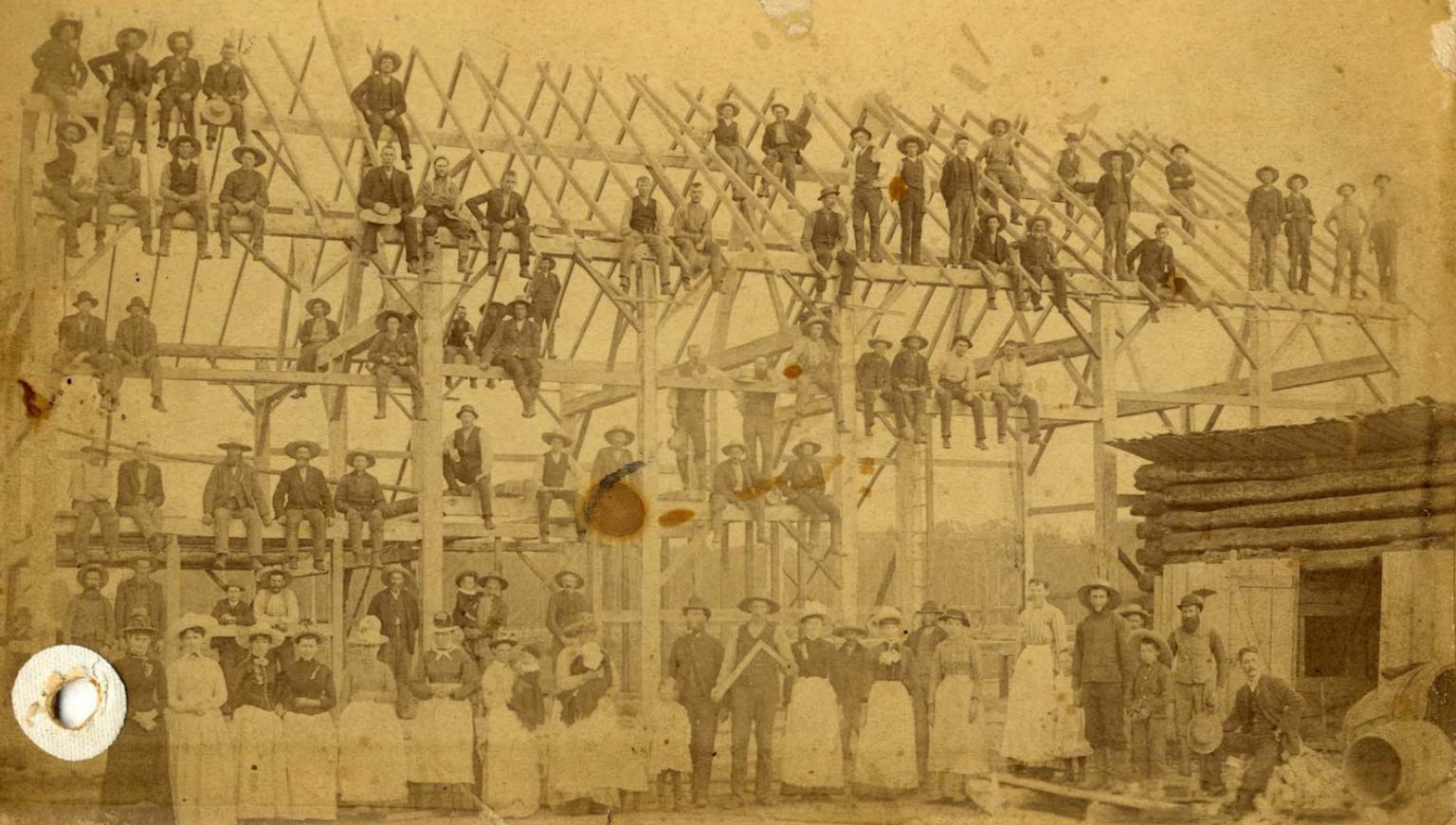
Alexander Campbell was born in Argyleshire, Scotland May 1st 1808
Catherine Cambell was born in Argyleshire, Scotland October 16th 1808
They were married in Aldborough, Canada, by Elder Dugald Campbell April 23rd
1833
They moved to the river Thames with oxen and sleigh on May 1st 1833
Alexander Campbell died 1887
Catherine Campbell died January 23rd 1899
Their children were:
Donald Campbell born March 4th 1834
Archibald Campbell born September 12th 1835
Mary Campbell born June 4th 1837
Flora Campbell born February 4th 1839
Duncan Campbell born August 25th 1840
John Campbell born August 15th 1842
Alexander Campbell born October 11th 1846
Thomas Campbell born February 23rd 1849
Dugald Campbell born May 2nd 1852
House built in 1867-1868

FARM HISTORY

Lot six in Concession two, Aldborough Township was the home of Colin Ferguson and his descendants from 1846 to 1959. Four generations changed it from virgin forest to a productive farm and a very comfortable home. The Ferguson family had come from Scotland some years before and settled in the New Glasgow district where many of their friends and kinfolk had landed on the shores of Lake Erie. Two hundred acres were purchased from Wm. Sheldon, no doubt a speculator who was from Hamilton. Colin Ferguson and his son Duncan proceeded to clear the land and erected the necessary log house and farm. Nine years later Mrs. Ferguson and the rest of the family joined them. Bothwell, a booming town seven miles to the west was prospering from the discovery of large deposits of black oil. The hope of living near a city now dispelled her fear of the wilderness. About the year 1860, the present large white frame house was built followed by the barn and the other necessary improvements. In 1900 the barn was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. The following year a new and larger one replaced it as more land was now cleared and producing a greater variety of grains and feed. The usual livestock was kept on the farm, horses, cattle, hogs, and chickens. The house was remodeled from time to time and made more convenient and modern. Electricity was installed in 1929 when it came to the community and a bathroom and running water added in 1951. A second house was provided for the grandparents and used from 1872 to 1894. It then became the workshop until 1966 when it was torn down.

The last surviving member of the resident family, Dr. Dugald Ferguson, sold the farm in 1959 to the Johnston Brothers of Bothwell for \$23,000.00 cash. They saw the possibility of developing a sand and gravel business to meet the growing demand of construction and road-building. Soon an office building was erected near the third concession road and loaders and stone crushers filling many large trucks for delivery for miles around. The farm implement shed was converted into a garage to keep the fleet of trucks in good working order. Now the house is surrounded by a fine white fence and tidy lawns and flower beds. Mr. & Mrs. Donald Johnston and family are the third family to occupy it in the 113 years since the pioneers starting with their axes to carve out a home for themselves, helped to develop this good country we call Canada.

Dan Purcell's Barn Raising 1888. Con. 2.



Duncan Ferguson Barn Raising, 1900. Lot 6. Cow, 5.



FARM HISTORY

West $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 3, Concession 2, Aldbofough Township.

As of Centennial Year 1967, this farm has been in the Woolner name for 90 years. It was bought from the Crown by Henry Ross Archer in 1867, who sold it the following year to Duncan McColl. The next owner was Railton Smith. In 1877 it was purchased by Jacot Woolner of Kitchener, who sold it to his son Martin Woolner in 1890. Upon his death in 1942, his son Gordon became the owner. The log house was replaced by a fine brick home in the 1890's. In 1956 a tornado swept through the district, demolishing the larger of the two barns. It was shortly replaced by a good steel structure. In 1958 the son Allan was married and built a nice modern home nearby on the farm.

Seventy-five years ago natural gas was discovered in the locality and each farmer soon had his own heating system. Mr. Woolner started drilling his well one morning and found gas at 67 feet and by night had it installed in the log house. In 1937 it was necessary to pump the gas with electricity and it still gives good service and comfort to the household.

Mrs. Martin Woolner. Alice, Elsie and Harvey. 1897.



The Woolner Farm Homes.



1960.



Four Generation Family

Mr. Alex McIntyre - Conc. 1
Aldborough Townshi

his Son John McIntyre

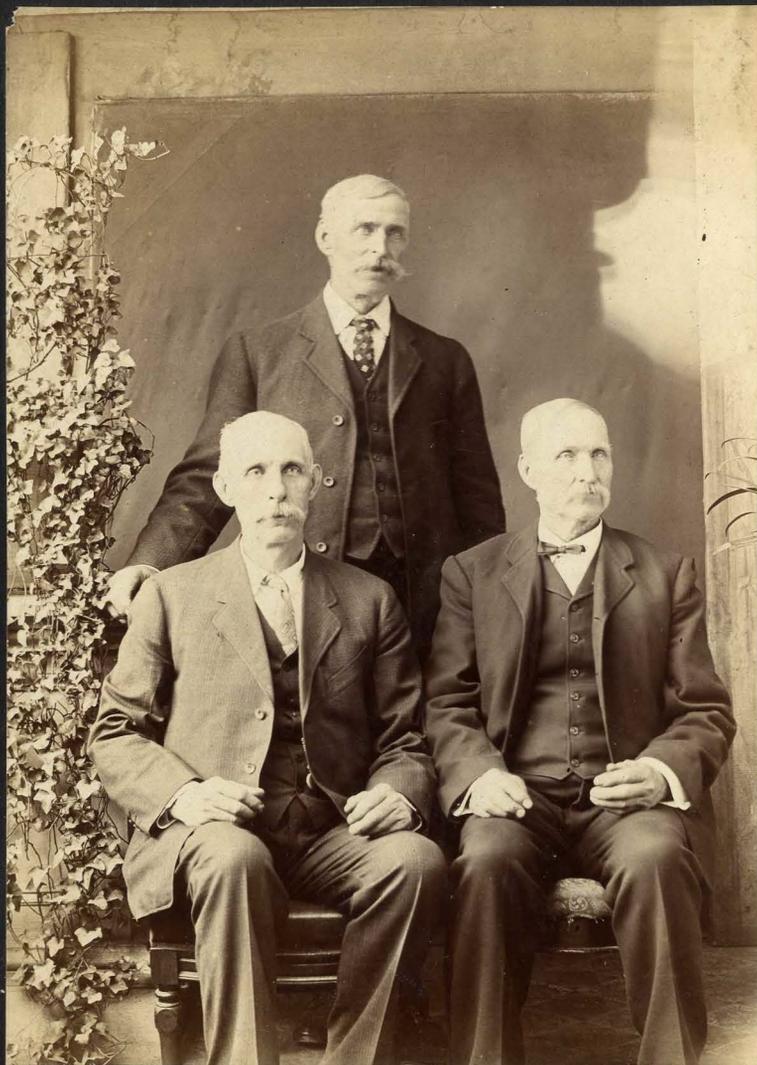
His Grandson W.A. (Bert) McIntyre

His Great-Grandson Ronald McIntyre



BOTHWELL,
ONT.

W. H. Beaul,



The
McLarty
Brothers.

John
Archie
Angus.

Mr. & Mrs.
John McLarty
and family.

Annie York
Cassie
Archie
Florence.

Peter King

Mary King



Grandma
McLarty

Peggy
McNeil

Mrs. McLarty.
Alvin's Grand.

A Reason to be Proud

On August 4, 1984, twenty four year old Angela Schneider brought honour to Canada, to Rodney and to Clackan when she and her team mates won a silver medal in rowing at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California.

Angie is the daughter of Oscar and Patricia Schneider. The latter was born Patricia Wright. Angie's grandparents, Frances and the late Lee Wright, as well as her great grandparents, the late Stuart and Martha Wright, lived for many years on lot 4, concession 2 of Aldborough.

To honour Angie's achievement a welcome home reception was held at Rodney Community Centre on Tues., August 14. Gifts were presented by local organizations including a N. I. teaspoon presented by Shirley Johnston representing Clackan N. I.

A well attended dinner in honour of Angie was held Friday, August 17 at the Rodney Legion Hall. Further presentations were made and a gift of money was presented to assist her in further endeavours.

Angie also proved herself to be a poised and able spokeswoman. As well as her many athletic achievements she has obtained a degree in Physical Education and Philosophy from the University of Western Ontario.

Clackan community is proud of Angie Schneider and of the honour she brought to Canada.

Angela Schneider

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Angela Schneider (born October 28, 1959 in St. Thomas, Ontario) is a Canadian rower. She won a silver medal in the Coxed Fours event at the 1984 Summer Olympics. Schneider is currently a professor at the University of Western Ontario. She teaches a kinesiology course about ethics in sport.

References

- "Angela Schneider" (<http://www.sports-reference.com/olympics/athletes/sc/angela-schneider-1.html>). *Olympics at Sports-Reference.com*. Sports Reference LLC.

Angela Schneider

Personal information

Born October 28, 1959 (age 55)
St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada

Medal record

Women's Rowing

Competitor for Canada

Olympic Games

 1984 Los Angeles Coxed Fours

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Angela_Schneider&oldid=627281411"

Categories: 1959 births | Living people | Canadian rowers | Olympic rowers of Canada | Olympic silver medalists for Canada | Rowers at the 1984 Summer Olympics | Canadian sportswomen | Sportspeople from Ontario | People from St. Thomas, Ontario | Olympic medalists in rowing | Female rowers | Canadian rowing biography stubs | Canadian Olympic medalist stubs

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Arrival home in Rodney. Angie Schneider
with parents Pat and Oscar



Shirley Johnston presents gift on behalf of
Clachan N.S.

30c
COPY



MR. AND MRS. OSCAR SCHNEIDER, and the latter's mother, Mrs. Lee Wright, proudly joined their daughter and granddaughter, Olympian Angela Schneider for this picture at Friday night's banquet and

dance at Rodney Legion Hall. Held to honour Angie and her winning an Olympic Silver Medal in rowing, nearly 350 attended the Legion and Auxiliary-sponsored affair.



*Angie with great Uncle and Aunt
Bill and Lil Wright of Clackan*

180

THE ALDBOROUGH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH

By Annie Long

The Aldborough Plains Baptist Church was started in the year 1872. Mr. Murdock McLeod gave the land which was part of his farm, on which to build a chapel for followers of the regular Baptist faith in Aldborough Township. The site was on Black's Lane near the third Concession on a knoll overlooking the fertile farms around it. Members had been attending Newbury Church nine miles north. A meeting for organization was held at Brother John McLarty's home. Mr. Seth York was appointed clerk and Mr. Amasa Thomas and Alexander Graham the deacons. Rev. P. G. Robinson was the first pastor. Dr. Davidson of Aylmer and Rev. J. L. Campbell of Chatham preached for the opening Services. There was a membership of thirty-seven and a Sunday School with seven teachers.

After seventy-six years of continuous service to the community in this location the building was in need of repair so an offer was accepted from Bruce Hillman of a free lot in Clachan village on the North corner of Concession Three and the Elgin-Kent line. In the fall of 1948 it was moved and remodeled into an attractive chapel with full basement. Reopening Services were conducted by Dr. Schutt of Toronto and special music was supplied by Mr. Victor Stroud. Rev. W. J. Robertson was the resident pastor ministering to the Clachan and Bothwell Churches. In the ensuing years many marriage ceremonies were conducted in the chapel and summer Bible School brought children of all faiths together.

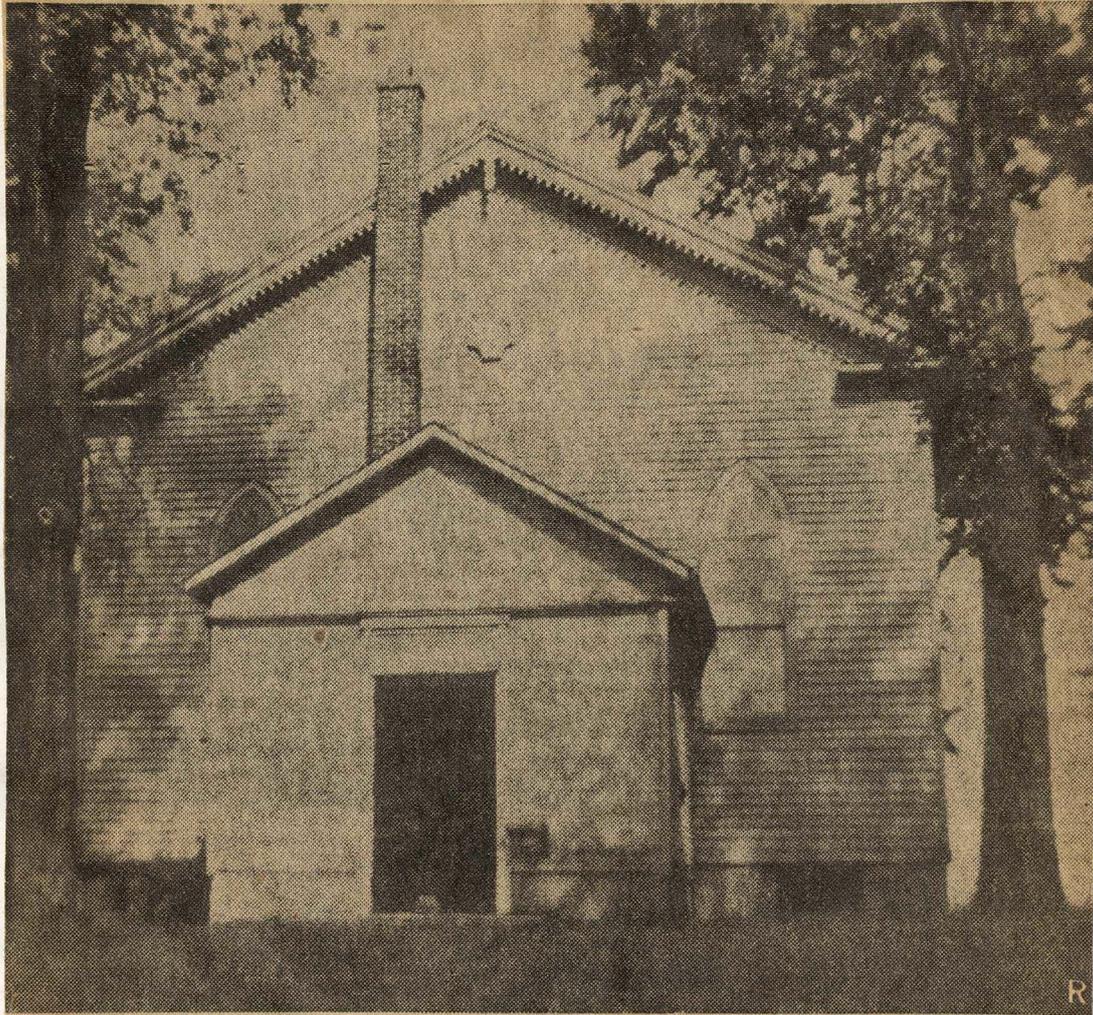


McCall Re-union Aug. 1925





Kintyre Presbyterian Church



The history of the Kintyre Presbyterian Church goes back to the days of the first settlement in the Township of Aldborough.]



HISTORY OF KINTYRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

By Mrs. Norine Woolner.

The history of Presbyterianism in Kintyre is contemporary with the settlement of this section of Elgin County.

The early settlers in the Northern section of Aldborough walked to New Glasgow church to worship, until 1847, when with the increase in population, the demand for a worship centre in their own section increased. Rev. Duncan McMillan was called to the New Glasgow church and the same year arrangements were made for services to be held in the No. 8. school house under Rev. McMillan's Ministry. In 1856 an election of elders was held in the school, when Donald McLean, John Lamont Sr. and John McKay were elected and became the first elders of Kintyre. In 1858, Orford township was open for settlement and soon Orford Plains school was built and Rev. McMillan also assumed duties there as minister.

The need for a church to accommodate those who worshipped in these two sections was felt and so the site for a new church was chosen at the corner of Black's Lane and Concession 5. The land was donated by Mr. Neil D. McMillan and the contract for the building was let to Mr. John Scott. The church was built in 1861. A few years later a manse was built on this property but in 1879 this manse was burned. A new one was built on the 5th, concession on the Lachore farm but it was burned in 1902, however another was erected at once on the same sight.

The church a well built structure, stood firm through the years and in 1942 lent itself to modernizing- including a full basement, with kitchen facilities and up-to-date heating system. In 1952 fifteen memorial windows were installed and the edifice was redecorated.

Ministers who have served during the intervening years were:-

Rev. Peter Currie	Rev. John Hosie
Rev. Hugh McGregor	Rev. J.R. Dickinson
Rev. John Stewart	Rev. W.N. Ferguson
Rev. John Currie	Rev. L.M. Sharpe
Rev. J.H. Barnett	Rev. G.W. Murdoch
Rev. A.R. McRae	Rev. D.W. Kerr
Rev. W.A. Leitch	Rev. T.J. Blakely (1953)
Rev. W.V. Kutcher (1960)	

HISTORY OF KINTYRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
con't By Mrs. Norine Woolner.

Elders who have served throughout the years in addition to the three already named are:-

Robert Hornal Sr.	Hector Patterson
Duncan McLean	Archie Patterson
John Lachore	Wm. Graham
James Fleming	Andrew Allen
Edward McMillan	Atkinson Poole
John McRae	James McPherson
Robert Hornal Jr.	D.H. Patterson
Alex Lachore	Gabriel Clark
Archie Leitch	James McWilliams
John Lamont Jr.	J.D. Scott
A.N. Currie	D. McLean
Martin Woolner	James Anderson
J.D. Graham	

The elders serving in the present year are John Braddon,

Frank Quinton	Corson Hornal
John R. Scott	Clarence McWilliams

Young men who entered the ministry from Kintyre Presbyterian church were:-

Archie McLean	Archie Currie
Robert Leitch	Charles McDonald

This brings up to date the history of Kintyre Presbyterian church, which still stands witnessing tho the "Faith of Our Fathers!" They built better then they knew a memorial to the faith and integrity of it's pioneer founders.

The following is the up-dated History since the One Hundredth Anniversary
Of Kintyre Presbyterian Church:-

- Ministers - Rev. Walter Kutcher 1960-65
 Rev. Ross MacDonald 1965-69
 Rev. W. G. Lewis 1969-74
- Mar. 1964 - A new forced air oil furnace was installed in the Church --
 cost of \$1450.00.
- May, 1965 - Kintyre to give \$2000.00 (the money received from their
 manse) to help build a new manse in Rodney at a cost of
 \$16000.00 - also to pay 2/5 of balance owing at 1% interest.
- Oct. 1965 - Kintyre congregation to pay for purchase of additional
 land for the lot to build a new manse on at Rodney.
- Feb. 1967 - Joint meetings of Rodney, New Glasgow and Kintyre to arrange
 for mortgage of \$10,000.00 on the new manse at 1% per annum.
- 1967 - A Communion table runner was dedicated in memory of
 Mrs. Donald Taylor.
- Dec. 1967 - New Manse was dedicated.
- Sept. 1969 - Pulpit Bible dedicated in memory of Mr. Neil Scott given
 by his wife Florence and son Cameron.
- Feb. 1970 - Public address system was installed and dedicated to the
 memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Braddon.
- 1970 - With the closing of Lee's United Church, a brass cross, its
 stand and a hymn board was presented to Kintyre Church.
- May 1971 - Painting of exterior of the Church
- 1972 - A small Bible and Lectern was dedicated in memory of
 Mr. Edwin MacMillan.
- The Session asked Mr. Carson Graham to build a cabinet
 with a glass front to hold the communion silver, - dedi-
 cated in the spring of 1972 in memory of Mr. and Mrs.
 John Braddon.
- 1973 - The congregation decided to use the new Books of Praise.
 Books were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Tunks Sr.,
 Mr. and Mrs. Alex James, with a large number being
 donated by members.
- Aug. 1974 - Interior of basement and vestibule were redecorated.
- Oct. 1974 - A canvass was made by the Board of Managers to pay the
 final payment of the manse (\$1222.00) as a Centennial
 Project.
- The Young People's Society demolished the old shed beside
 the church.
- June 1974 - A Burning Bush and some evergreens were bought and
 planted beside the church.
- A Centennial sign was bought and placed at the corner of
 Furnival and 5th concession.
- June 1st, 1974 - Kintyre Presbyterian Church held a Centennial Service
 with the Rev. Russell Gordon of London as guest
 speaker assisted by Rev. W. G. Lewis and Rev. Ross
 MacDonald, at which the burning of the Manse Mortgage
 took place.
- June 1974 - A book case in memory of Mrs. Florence Scott given by
 Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Scott and twenty-eight Books of Praise
 given by Mrs. Sadie Scott in memory of the Archibald Currie
 Family. These will be dedicated at a later date.
- June 1974 - New choir gowns were purchased.

FORWARD

On August 13th, 1961, we are celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the opening of our Church, and in connection therewith this short history of the congregation is being prepared for the information of those who are not conversant with the facts, that the knowledge of these things may not be lost, as printed truths are more lasting than man's memory, and that pride may be stimulated in the members and friends of this congregation for what has been accomplished here for the cause of Jesus Christ, that it may be an incentive to even greater effort and better Christian living in the future.

THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

First of all, let me express my tribute and high respect to all those who responded to God's call and God's will and who under His guidance established Presbyterian Faith in Kintyre. It is indeed with great humility and thankfulness that we remember them!

As we think of those Christians who walked humbly before God, our hearts and minds are raised up to God in prayer of thanksgiving and we repeat the words of the Psalmist: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name!"

Let us, however, remember that God has no hands but our hands to continue His work in this community. Perhaps the most impassioned appeal that the Saviour of men made as contained in the words "Lift up your eyes and see how the fields are already white for harvest."

It is the peculiar genius of the Christian Faith that it is missionary, it is outreaching. As a direct consequence of its missionary-mindedness the words of Jesus are always applicable to the Christian Church. There are always fields to be harvested, there are always opportunities to be taken; there are always more things to do than there is time or strength or hands to accomplish.

A church that is always seeing "fields already white for harvest" is a church that is mindful of its witness.

As we keep this in mind, as we yield our hearts and our lives to Him "from Whom cometh every good and perfect gift" we rejoice in the heritage of our Christian Faith and pray together with the believers throughout the world: "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

The Rev. Walter V. Kutcher.

The Settlement

The history of Presbyterianism in Kintyre is contemporary with the settlement of this part of the township, for almost all the pioneers belonged to the Presbyterian faith, and they did not lose any of their religious qualities on coming to the new land.

The first settler in the township of Aldborough was a Mr. James Fleming, who settled on Lot 6, Con. 1, by the Thames River in the year 1796. But no further settlement was made until the year 1816. In that year three families landed at Port Glasgow and settled near that port. In 1817 three more families came, and from 1818 to 1820 a considerable number of families arrived, being brought out by Col. Talbot. But all the settlement was in the southern part of the township, and this part known as "The Woods."

Not 'til 1830 did the north part begin to be settled. In that year Mr. James Scott settled on the fourth concession, in the midst of unbroken forest, and his brother-in-law, a Mr. McPhail, settled on the fifth concession. The Purcell family was also among the early pioneers of the northern part. But it was not until the forties that any considerable settlement was made in Kintyre. The Lamonts, McMillans, McBrides, McLeans, McDonalds and McAskells came during those years, and some who had lived at New Glasgow bought land farther back. Among these were the Curries and the McKays.

In 1858 that part of Orford north of concession six which had been held as Indian lands, was thrown open for settlement, and that land soon filled up. The Hornals moved back from Duart into that land, and the McLeods and McWilliams were among the first in that part.

Almost all the people who settled in Aldborough, and the north part of Orford, were Scotch and Presbyterian, although a few were of the Baptist faith.

Presbyterianism

In order to understand the history of Presbyterianism in this section we must go back to the parent church which was New Glasgow. After the early settlers came to that part of the township they felt very keenly the need of a pastor to lead them in spiritual things, so application was made to the Church in Scotland for a missionary.

In the year 1825 the Glasgow Colonial Society was organized in Glasgow, Scotland, for promoting the moral and religious interest of the Scottish settlers in British North America, and all missionaries of this Society must belong to the Established Church. In 1827, a Rev. Mr. Ross was sent to labor on the shores of Lake Erie. The district over which here had pastoral oversight comprised the townships of Harwich, Howard, Orford, Aldborough, Dunwich, Southwold, Ekfrid, Mosa and Zone. Some sixteen Presbyterian Churches now cover the ground of this original pastorate.

Services at first were held in private houses, wherever two or three families could be gathered together. A very important part of the minister's work was pastoral visitation, giving each family in turn a thorough drilling in the fundamental truths of the Bible. The children had to undergo a strict examination in both the Bible and the Shorter Catechism.

In 1834 the people of New Glasgow felt they could no longer do without a place of worship. Money was scarce, but timber was plentiful, and that of the very best. The people turned out in force, drew logs to the mill, had timber sawn and hauled to the site which was on the farm now belonging to Mr. Murray McLean, Lot 4, Con. 12, Aldborough. The frame was of the best oak and the siding white wood. The church was partly gothic style, a gallery at the west end and a high pulpit reached by a flight of steps where the minister was high above the heads of the people. This was typical of Established Churches in Scotland.

People gathered from all parts of the surrounding country to services in this church, especially at Communion seasons. People walked twenty to thirty miles because that was the only means of travel. Women walked fifteen miles and carried their babies, that they might have the privilege of worshipping God in His sanctuary.

During the next ten years several other churches were built in Mr. Ross' charge. After Mr. Ross' departure a Mr. McColl, another graduate from the Established Church was sent out and labored successfully till 1844.

But the church in this district was not long to have peace. In the year 1844 came the disruption in Scotland, when the Presbyterian Church was divided over the connection of Church and State. The Free Church came out from the Established Church protesting against State control in ecclesiastical affairs, and the movement spread as far as Canada. Men came from Scotland persuading the churches to join the Free Church movement, and the people in Western Ontario mostly cast in their lot with the Free Church. A few congregations of the Established Church remained, one at Glencoe, one in Dunwich, and one at Fingal.

The church building at New Glasgow was invested in the Synod of the Auld Kirk and the dissenters were forbidden to use the building.

Services were held for three years in private houses by missionaries who came occasionally.

In 1847 the Rev. Duncan McMillan was called to take up the work, and soon after he came he began holding services in the school at the Furnival and the fifth concession, and also in the school in east Aldborough. In 1854 a Free Church was built at New Glasgow and the Kintyre people attended there every alternate Sunday when there was no service in the school.

In November, 1855, the session of New Glasgow, "after mature deliberation, decided to ask for the election of three elders to represent the preaching station in the north part of the congregation," now Kintyre. The election was held in the school house on the second day of February, 1856, only members being allowed to vote. Mr. Donald McLean, John Lamont and John McKay were elected and became the first elders of Kintyre. At first the session met as a joint session, but gradually each part met separately.

In 1858 Orford was thrown open for settlement and soon Orford Plains school was built, and Rev. Duncan McMillan began holding service there on the same day as he was at the Furnival school.

It was then decided to build a church, and in order to accommodate the people from Orford Plains as well as from the Furnival the site at the corner of Black's Lane and the fifth, where the church now stands, was chosen.

Mr. Peter McAskill and Mr. Robert Graham canvassed the township of Orford from the river to the lake for subscriptions, and Mr. Robert Currie did the same in Aldborough.

When sufficient money was subscribed it was deemed advisable to proceed with the building the contract for the construction of the church was given to Mr. John Scott.

The building was not elaborate, but it was made of the best material and substantially built. Outwardly it was much the same as today, but there have been some changes to the interior. The original pulpit was an octagonal one of panelled walnut with a flight of stairs. At the foot of the pulpit was the precentor's box. The seats were home-made, not the factory product now in use, and at the front there were side seats on both sides.

The opening service was conducted by Principal Willis of Knox College, who preached from Gen. 9-13, discoursing on the colors of the rainbow. Many of the pioneers were not at all satisfied because the sermon was too short and they expected something deeper from such a noted man. Mr. Hector Patterson was the Precentor and when the Professor asked that one of the Psalms should be sung in Gaelic Mr. Patterson was undecided as to whether he should sing it as the English is sung, when some good old body by him leaned over and said in Gaelic, "Line it, line it" and lined it was.

That same year a Deacon's Court was elected, consisting of Mr. Hector Patterson, Neil McNeil, Donald McMillan, James McKenzie and Robert Hornal.

In 1862 Rev. Duncan McMillan resigned after a successful pastorate of fifteen years. For three years the congregations were hearing candidates and having supply. It took much longer to settle a charge then than now. Presbytery did not meet so often and the matter had to be brought before the Presbytery oftener.

In 1865 Rev. Peter Currie of Vankleek Hill was called and ministered very ably to the congregation for eight years.

During his time additions were made to the session and also to the deacon's court. On April 16th, 1868, Mr. Robert Hornal, Hector Patterson and Duncan McLean were ordained elders, and Mr. John Kennedy, Dougald McLean and Alexander Lamont deacons.

In 1873 Mr. Currie received a call to Teeswater, and with a view to keeping him as pastor of either congregation, Kintyre and New Glasgow separated, but Mr. Currie accepted the call, and both congregations were without a minister.

It then became necessary for Kintyre to build a manse. The first manse was built on Black's Lane, about a quarter of a mile south of the church.

In 1876 Mr. Hugh McGregor was called to be pastor of Kintyre congregation. After having preached, and before receiving the call, Mr. McGregor had made a contract to preach for the Loggers' Mission of the Ottawa Valley, but Kintyre was so set on having him that they waited a year until his contract was up.

But Mr. McGregor's pastorate was not to be very long, for not being a very rugged man, but very conscientious in keeping his promise, he exposed himself too much to the inclement weather in going to a communion service in Dawn, in the spring of 1879, and contracted his fatal illness.

That summer the manse was burned and the minister and his wife found refuge in the house of Mr. Colin Walker on the Seventh Concession. There Mr. McGregor died that fall, and his remains were taken to Norwich for burial. Although Mr. McGregor's pastorate was very short he was one of the most beloved pastors of Kintyre congregation.

A new manse was built after the destruction of the first one, but this time on the fifth concession, on the site of the present manse. The land for the manse was given by Mrs. Lochore to be held by the congregation so long as used for church purposes.

Mr. John Stewart was the next called, but as things did not go very well he remained only a short time.

In 1882 a call was extended to Mr. John Currie, who had just graduated from Knox College, who labored in Kintyre for ten years, and in Belmont for twenty-six years. Under his leadership the congregation was strengthened and finances improved. During his pastorate an organ was purchased and used at first in the Sabbath School, which was held in the church. Miss Marion McMillan was the first organist. Some of the older people were very much opposed to the "kist of whistles," and when the organ began to play somebody asked another "if they were going in to the dance." This only goes to show the different temper of the age. To-day we feel how well instruments of music can be made to worship God, and our service lacks inspiration without a good organist. Just as the minister leads the heart of the people up to God in prayer, so the organist should lead the people up to God in the service of song.

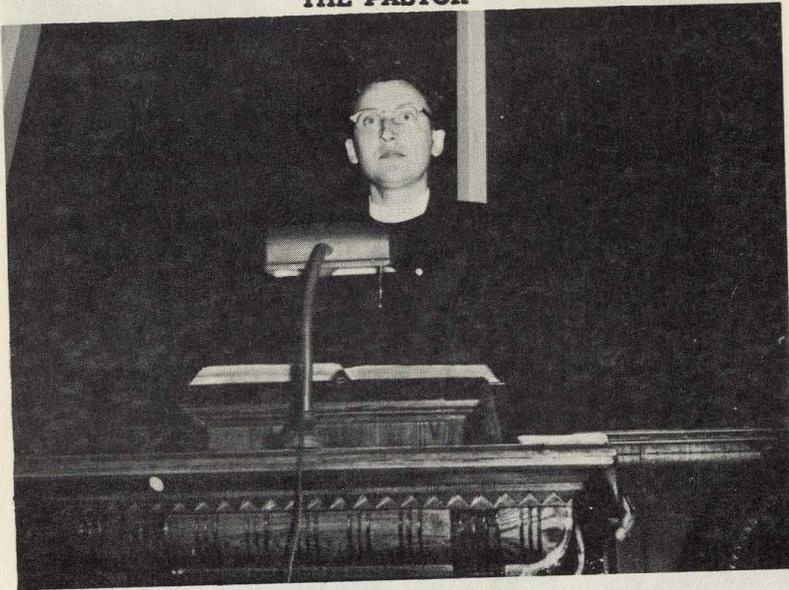
For many years after the organ was introduced at the church service there was no choir and was not until the pastorate of Mr. McRae that a choir was started. Instead, the congregation was usually blessed with good musicians to lead the service of praise. Among the precentors who followed Mr. Hector Patterson were Mr. Duncan McPhail, Mr. Duncan McLean, Mr. Andrew Allan and Mr. Atkinson Pools. For many years Mr. Poole was precentor, at first as associate with Mr. Allan, and later alone, and he was very faithful in his presence at the services.

In 1892 Mr. Currie received a call to Belmont, and in August of 1893 Mr. J. H. Barnett, another graduate of Knox College, was settled over the congregation. He remained for eighteen years and carried on faithfully. This was a remarkable record in these later days of shorter pastorates.

Here we must digress from speaking about the pastors and say something about the elders. In 1902 the manse was burned, and the records of the congregation were also burned, so it is a difficult matter to know just when the different elders were elected.



THE PASTOR



Rev. Walter Kutcher

ELDERS



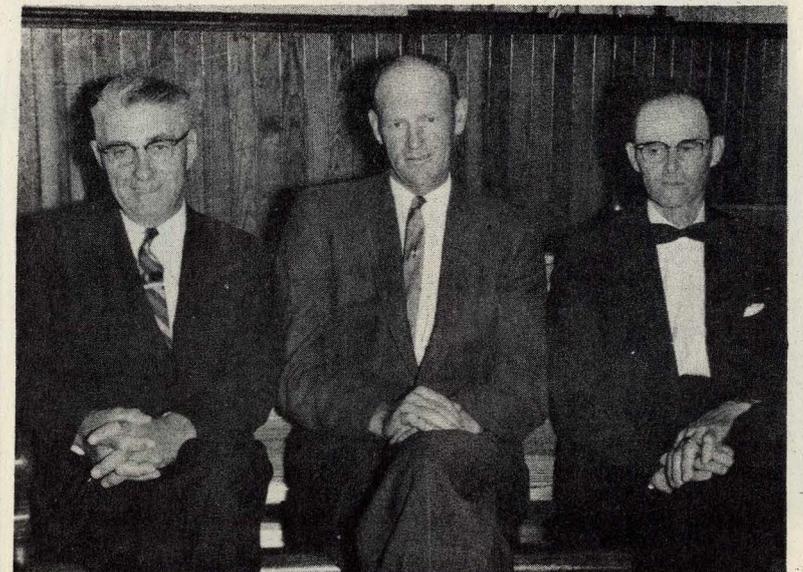
John R. Scott, Frank Quinton, Angus Braddon, clerk of the session, Rev. Walter Kutcher, Corson Hornal, Clarence McWilliams and Alex. James.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

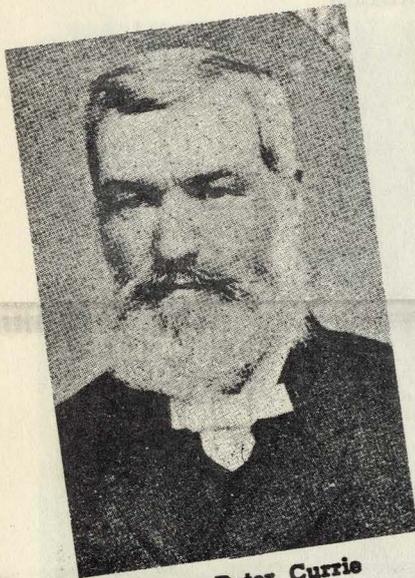


Seated: Frank Quinton, Mrs. Roy Alderton, sec.-treas., and Gordon Woolner, chairman. Standing: John Currie, Lloyd Binks, Robert Waite, Neil Fleming and Earl Morden.

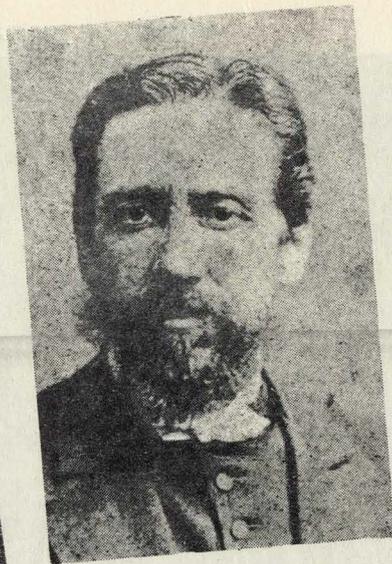
TRUSTEES



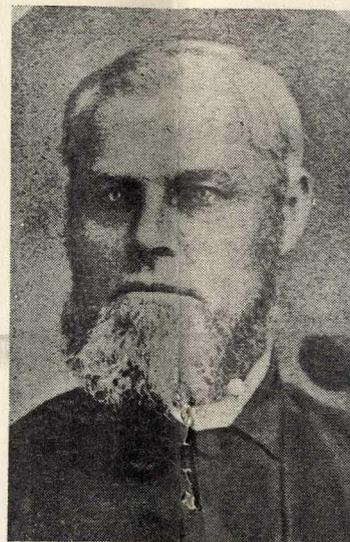
Angus Braddon, John Campbell and Robert Jamieson



Rev. Peter Currie



Rev. H. McGregor



Rev. J. Stewart



Rev. A. R. McRae



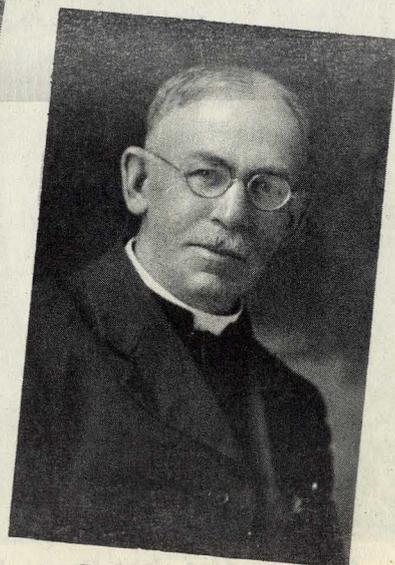
Rev. J. H. Barnett

Our Former Pastors

Pictures of
Rev. J. R. Dickson and Rev. W. N. Ferguson
not available



Rev. W. A. Leitch



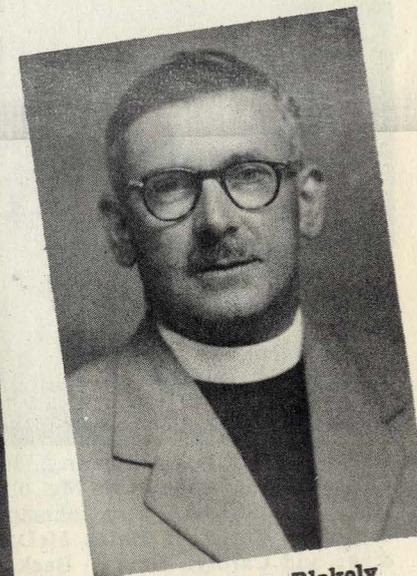
Rev. John Hosie



Rev. G. W. Murdock



Rev. D. Kerr



Rev. T. A. Blakely

SENIOR CHOIR



Mrs. Corson Hornal at the piano and Miss Shirley McWilliams at the organ. Front row: Dianne Braddon, Mrs. Gordon Woolner, Mrs. Angus Braddon, Mrs. Roy Alderton. Centre row: Laura McColl, Carolyn Binks, Jacqueline McWilliams and Mrs. Don McDougall. Back row: Clifford Tunks, Jr., Ronald Alderton, Robert Quinton, Bert McColl, Allan Woolner and Clifford Tunks.

JUNIOR CHOIR



Front row: Frankie Fleming, Robert Johnston, Bryce Wilkins, Carrie Jean Fleming, Kate McColl, Patsy McColl and Joanne Johnston. Middle row: Patsy Johnston, Linda Johnston, Dianne Braddon, Joan Cornwall, Helen McDougall, Laura McColl, Linda Gardiner and Carolyn Binks. Back row: Wayne Tunks, David McDougall, Lynn Tunks, Allan Binks, Ronald Alderton, Robert Quinton, Larry Campbell, Donald Quinton and James Wilkins.

LADIES' AID AND W.M.S.



Front row: Mrs. Walter Gillies, Mrs. Angus Braddon, Mrs. Donald McDougall, Mrs. Edward Poole, Mrs. Irene Campbell, Mrs. Robert Jamieson and Mrs. Harold Johnston. Back row: Mrs. Peter King, Mrs. Alex. James, Mrs. Gordon Tunks, Mrs. Roy Cornwall, Mrs. Annie James, Mrs. Gordon Woolner and Mrs. Robert Waite. Absent: Mrs. Donald Taylor, president of the Ladies' Aid, and Mrs. Clifford Tunks, secretary of the Ladies' Aid.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY



Front row: Joan Cornwall, Dianne Braddon and Shirley McWilliams. Middle row: David McDougall, Laura McColl, Helen McDougall, Joyce Binks, Linda Johnston and Carolyn Binks. Back row: Lynn Tunks, Larry Campbell, Wayne Tunks, Bert McColl, leader, Allan Binks, Ronald Alderton and Donald Quinton.



After 1868 the next elected to the eldership were Mr. Archie Patterson, Mr. John Lochore and Mr. William Graham. They were elected in Mr. McGregor's time.

The next group to be elected were Mr. James Fleming, Mr. Andrew Allan and Mr. Edward McMillan, in Mr. Currie's pastorate.

At another election Mr. Atkinson Poole, Mr. John McRae and Mr. James McPherson.

In 1910 the ranks of the session were depleted and it was decided to add to their numbers. At this time Mr. Robert Hornal, Mr. D. H. Patterson, Mr. Alex Lochore and Mr. Gabriel Clark were chosen.

In 1921 the session was again increased by the addition of Mr. Archie Leitch, Mr. James McWilliams and Mr. John Lamont.

Throughout the years of church life there have been a worthy succession in the eldership to the original saintly pioneers, Mr. John Lamont, Mr. John McKay and Mr. Donald McLean.

Nor must we omit to say something about the deacon's court, for many goodly men served their Master in the capacity of deacons. Among them were Mr. Angus Colquhoun, Mr. John McWilliam, Mr. Dougald McLean, Mr. James Jamieson, Mr. Archie Leitch, Mr. Alex. Lochore, Mr. Alex. Clark, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Martin Woolner.

In 1910 the deacon's court was changed to a Board of Managers, the members elected for a term of 3 years, at first of six members but later increased to nine.

In the early part of 1912 Mr. Barnett accepted a call to Norwich and was succeeded by Rev. A. R. McRae, who remained until November, 1917. In the early part of his ministry Mr. McRae was afflicted with a severe illness which required an operation and an extended rest, and much sympathy was felt for Mr. McRae.

In May 1918, Mr. W. A. Leitch was ordained — a fourth in succession of Knox College graduates ordained at Kintyre.

The Organization of the Sabbath School

Even before there was a church building Sabbath school was conducted in the Furnival school by a Mr. McBride, and the school has always been continued since. In the time of Mr. Barnett and Mr. McRae Sabbath school was conducted in the four school houses of the congregation. But difficulty was experienced in finding superintendents and the work is now centralized in the church.

* * * * *

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me; for such is the Kingdom of God."

This verse has guided devoted men and women of Kintyre, as through the years they have worked faithfully to bring the Word of God to the various Sabbath School classes. The Sabbath School has always been a vital part of the church work, having been led by such loyal superintendents as Mr. Robert Hernal, Mr. Angus Braddon, Mr. J. D. Scott, Mr. Frank Quinton and Mr. Donald McDougall.

Our centennial year finds a flourishing Sabbath School with fifty-five members. Since 1955 our classes, five in number, have been held in the basement during the latter part of the church service. This has proved very satisfactory, for in 1960, 35 of the 55 members enrolled, received certificates for perfect attendance.

Now in 1961, our Sabbath School looks forward to the years ahead, when we hope the work of those who have gone before, will be added to and continued toward a better world for all.

The Women's Missionary Society

The Women's Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. Currie, and has been doing very efficient work. They are especially noted for their liberal financial offerings. For many years Mrs. D. H. Patterson was the president, but the society lost her services on her removal to Rodney in 1920.

On April 14th, 1925, a meeting was held in the church and the motion "That we sever our affiliation as member and officers of the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Canada" carried unanimously. A new Women's Missionary Society was then organized with Mrs. N. D. McMillan as President. Mrs. McMillan has been a very able and untiring worker in the Society. She has been on the executive since 1909 when she accepted the office of Secretary which she held for twelve consecutive years. Later Mrs. McMillan held the same office for the years 1936, 37 and 38, making a total of fifteen years as Secretary of this Society. She held the office of President for four years, when in 1930 Mrs. Dan McMillan relieved her of her responsibilities.

Mrs. Dan McMillan served for seven years as President, five years as Treasurer, and three years as Secretary. Nothing was too much trouble for her to undertake for the good of the Society. In October 1936, Mrs. McMillan suffered a stroke, and passed to her reward before the end of the year.

Mrs. J. D. Scott, Mrs. John Lamont, and Mrs. N. D. McMillan, held the office of President in that order named for 1937, 38 and 39. The meetings were held in the home.

Presidents since that time have been Mrs. R. Jamieson, Mrs. D. Taylor, Mrs. L. Ford, Mrs. A. Braddon, Mrs. J. R. Scott, Mrs. T. J. Blakely, Mrs. J. Anderson and Mrs. L. Campbell.

The Society has striven to meet their Mission Allocation each year and packed a bale of clothing to be sent to the Cecilia Jeffery School and Reserve. Through the years there have been 34 Life Memberships given. Thus, our chain of golden memories extends over the years of service for the Master. We gratefully acknowledge His loving and tender care manifested throughout the years, and His manifold blessings in providing bountifully for our spiritual and physical needs. May we ever acknowledge Him in all our ways.

It is our earnest hope and prayer that this chain will go on unbroken ever increasing in power to do good, and to send to those in darkness the wonderful message of God's love.

The Ladies' Aid

The Ladies of the Congregation were organized to form the Ladies' Aid in March, 1938. This organizational meeting took place at the Colquhoun home, Clachan.

These Ladies' Aid meetings have always been held in conjunction with the W.M.S. meetings. For many years the meetings were held in the homes but for the past few months they have been held in the Church basement.

These hard working members have been responsible for many worthwhile projects in the Church and in the manse.

Most noticeable of these projects perhaps would be the furnishings of the kitchen and basement with cupboards, stoves, folding chairs, hot and cold water under pressure, and many other items necessary in the preparation and serving of Church suppers, banquets and wedding receptions.

The Ladies also were responsible for the purchase of one memorial window.

Of the more recent improvements have been the addition of two bathrooms at the rear of the church and the laying of carpet in the auditorium.

For a number of years, prior to the reorganization of the charges in 1960, the Ladies' Aid, with the help of the Wardsville ladies, added many improvements to the manse.

Without the very great co-operation of the Ladies, many of the improvements of today would not have been realized. And so we shall pray that we may be guided in the years ahead to keep faith with our ancestors and work untiringly to preserve this place of worship for those who may come after us.

On this our Centennial we would also think it proper to stop for a moment and pay tribute to those of our members who shared in this work and who have passed to their reward. It shall be our duty to keep their memory alive.

* * * * *

The ladies of the W.M.S. and Ladies' Aid adopted a little Korean girl Jang Myung Soon in July 1958. Through their diligent effort and contribution they have seen her sent to school, clothed and grow into a lovely child with hope and happiness shining in her eyes, knowing in her heart that someone cares.

The Choir

The choir was organized about 1912. Miss Mary McLean was organist for some years, and the service of praise was always of a high order. The young people of the congregation have nobly helped out in maintaining a full and efficient choir, of which Mr. Andrew Colthart was the leader at that time.

The Senior Choir

The Senior choir under the direction of Mrs. Corson Hernal added a great deal to each Sunday's service. She was a faithful and capable pianist for 26 years. Her health failing she resigned and Mrs. John Campbell took over for a short time followed by Joan McWilliam who played for several months until Shirley McWilliam began and who still is choir leader and organist at this time.

Two very prominent members of the choir, Alex. James, Sr., and Mrs. Mary Campbell, passed away during this time and are sadly missed by all.

The Junior Choir

The Junior Choir began in 1954. It was the inspiration of the late Mary Campbell. With the help of Shirley McWilliam, pianist and choir leader at the time, they organized a choir of about twenty children between the ages of seven and seventeen. They were dressed in dark skirts or pants with white blouses and black bow ties at the neck. They made a lovely appearance as they sang their first numbers on Easter Sunday of that year. The parents and the whole congregation were thrilled, so they continued on throughout the years singing at least six Sundays a year. Some children have matured and joined the senior choir, while new ones are being added each year.

The Young People's Society

The Young People's Society was first formed under the guidance of Rev. Currie in about year 1910. It was known as the Young People's Guild. It was a large and flourishing group in which the name Scott, Fleming and Forsythe appear frequently.

In 1916 they purchased the first organ for the church for \$75 dollars. In 1920 the Young Peoples' as it is known now, raised over \$150 dollars for Missions and the China Famine Fund. In 1922 they raised \$105 dollars for digging the well at the church.

Church Union in 1925 seriously depleted the ranks of the Young Peoples' Society, however, they carried on. In 1942 their God's acre plan raised \$240 dollars which was used to install the furnace in the church. In 1952 when the memorial windows were installed in the church the Young Peoples donated the money for the window above the front entrance. In 1954 the Young Peoples' disbanded to be reorganized in 1958.

At the present time there are 21 members. The 1961-1962 executive is, president, Helen McDougall; vice-president, Larry Campbell; secretary, Joyce Binks; treasurer, Pat Johnston, with Bert McColl as adult adviser.

Our Representatives in the Church

We must not forget to make mention of those who have gone from this congregation into the active work of the ministry. Among these were Mr. Archie McLean, son of Donald McLean, who labored many years, and died at Blyth; Mr. Archie Currie, who was minister for some time at Duart and Ridgetown; Mr. Robert Leitch, who was minister at Port Stanley, and who died in Sarnia, had his home in Kintyre, on the sixth concession; Robert Lochore, brother to Mr. John and Alex. Lochore, died before he had completed his course in Knox College; and Charles MacDonald, son of Mr. Roderick MacDonald, who prepared for the ministry at the University of Toronto and Knox College and preached for a number of years in the United Church of Canada.

In 1925 the Church voted not to go into Union. In the same year a call was given to Rev. Mr. John Hosie, London, who remained until 1929.

Rev. Mr. J. R. Dickson was minister from 1930 to 1931, he was followed by Rev. Mr. W. N. Ferguson who remained from 1932 to 1937.

In 1939 Mr. G. W. Murdoch began his ministry in Kintyre, his ordination taking place in 1940. During these years many changes took place adding to the comfort and beauty of the Church. The Church was raised, basement construct-

ed, new heating system installed, the vestry was moved to the front of the Church to provide a new entrance. The auditorium was also redecorated. In 1946 Rev. Mr. Murdoch was called to Ingersoll.

For two years the Church was without a minister. In 1948 a call was given to the Rev. Mr. D. W. Kerr and he remained until 1952. During Rev. Mr. Kerr's ministry, fifteen memorial windows were installed, the auditorium redecorated and the exterior painted.

After being without a minister for a year a call was given to Rev. Mr. T. J. Blakely who accepted this call and remained until 1958.

In 1956 a windstorm ripped off the east side of the Church roof and this made necessary a new roof and the complete redecoration of the interior. At this time the floors were sanded and polished, adding much to the appearance of the Church.

A highlight of 1957 was the purchase and installation of a new Hammond Electric Organ.

On Friday, May 6th, 1960, our present minister Rev. Mr. W. V. Kutcher was inducted.

In fall, 1960, a bathroom was added at the rear of the Church. Between the years 1946 and 1961 a modern kitchen was installed in the basement. The dining hall was attractively decorated and new banquet tables purchased.

The church grounds have also undergone changes. A cement walk leading to the church has been laid. Mrs. N. D. McMillan donated land to be used as a parking lot. Hydro took the place of Coleman lamps in 1939.

The years since 1925 have seen many other changes. In 1932 the congregation was joined with that of Wardsville and Bothwell to form a three point charge. Later the Bothwell group disbanded leaving a two point charge which continued until December 1959. At a meeting held in Rodney Presbyterian Church, in November 1959, it was voted to form a three point charge — Rodney, New Glasgow and Kintyre.

As a Centennial Project, the front of the Church has been beautified with the installation of a wooden cross mounted on a walnut panel, the choir loft elevated and walnut panels built in front. The pulpit was brought forward and new carpeting placed on the dais and two aisles.

As we consider the Hundred Years of the history of Knox Church, Kintyre, we bow before God, our heavenly Father, in humility and adoration and with thanksgiving in our hearts. We acknowledge the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the past and pray for His guidance in the future!

Elders — 1921 - 1960

J. D. Scott, A. N. Currie, D. M. McLean, M. Woolner, J. Anderson, John D. Graham, John Braddon, Frank Fleming.

Present Elders

Frank Quinton, Corson Hornal, J. R. Scott, John Braddon, Clarence McWilliams, Alex. James, Angus Braddon.

Board of Managers

Harold Johnston, Robt. Waite, William Downie, Gordon Woolner, Lloyd Binks, John Currie, Frank Quinton, Earl Morden, Neil Fleming.

Board of Trustees

J. A. Campbell, Angus Braddon, Robt. Jamieson.

Ushers

Larry Campbell, Robt. Waite, George Quinton, William Downie.

Church Treasurer

Mrs. Roy Alderton

Budget Treasurer

Mrs. Donald McDougall

Memorials

Memorial Lamp has been placed on the organ in memory of the late Mrs. Mary E. Campbell, by Mrs. Reta Brodie Webster. Mrs. Campbell served faithfully as Church Treasurer for fifteen years.

Leather bound Hymnal presented by Mrs. Alfred Koehler in memory of her cousin, Mrs. John Braddon, a valued member of this congregation.

This congregation has benefitted greatly by legacies given by former members of this congregation — namely: McKay Estate, Mrs. Dan McMillan, Mrs. Lottie Fleming.

To the W.M.S. — Mrs. Elisa Smith Clark, Dr. J. H. Barnett's Estate.

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HISTORY OF THE PURCELL - McLEAN CEMETERIES, CONCESSION 3, WEST.

By Annie Long

The Purcell Cemetery was started by Archibald Purcell November 25, 1848 for the burial of two infants who died on the same day of Cholera Morbus. One was his own son and the other that of a neighbor, Nickle Scott. Thirty years later Mr. Dougald McLean started a cemetery across the fence from the Purcell Cemetery. Mrs Peter Spence was the first person laid to rest in it. The rail fence dividing the two cemeteries was removed forty years afterwards.

In 1915 a caretaker was hired to level and beautify both sides and a new fence with brick gate was erected. The local club of the United Farm Women of Ontario planted shrubs and flower beds and the Women's Institute shade trees which added much to the natural beauty of the rolling land. The Purcell Cemetery has been maintained by Perpetual Care Plots and money gifts, the McLean Cemetery by a gift of \$10,000, the interest of which is for upkeep, donated by A. D. and D. A. McMillan of Crinan. Annual Memorial Services have been held since 1915 on Labor Day Sunday which are well attended.

Unique Grave-Tender

From the London Free Press June 13, 1949.



A Wardsville man is still tending the grave of a brother who died 101 years ago. E. J. Purcell, above, never saw his brother, Dougall, who died in 1848 at the age of three weeks, but the self-imposed task of caring for the plot in the Aldborough Township, family cemetery is believed unique. Mr. Purcell is the last survivor of a family of 12 children of Archibald Purcell, who emigrated from Scotland about 1818.

Wardsville Man Tends Grave Of Brother Dead 101 Years

WARDSVILLE, June 12 — E. J. Purcell, of Wardsville, still tends the grave of his brother, Dougall, who died in 1848 — 101 years ago.

Many of the residents of this Thames Valley village on Number 2 Highway in the southwest corner of Middlesex County live to a ripe old age, and they can tell tales of early Western Ontario going back for generations in family history when Wardsville had 1,000 people.

Older Than London

Wardsville is older than London, they will tell you, and before the Kent-Lambton oil boom collapsed it threatened to become greater than the Forest City.

But Mr. Purcell's self-imposed task of caring for the family plot in the Purcell Cemetery in Aldborough Township, 4½ miles south of Wardsville, involves a unique duty— beautifying the last resting-place of a brother he never saw, who died more than a century ago.

Mr. Purcell is the youngest and last surviving member of the family of 12 children of Archibald Purcell, who came to Canada from Argyllshire, Scotland, about 1818.

Died in 1848

The brother who died in 1848, was a baby boy, less than three weeks old. The old, lace-stitched, leather-bound, family Bible (inscribed "Archbd. Pursel's Bible bought and paid in London in April, 1853. Price, nine shillings, York") lists Baby Dougall's birthdate as November 7.

The blurred inscription on the little tombstone, shared with another dead brother, seems to give the birthdate as November 8. But both sources agree death was November 25.

Other variations occur in spellings. The family name today is given consistently as "Purcell," de-

spite the Bible's spelling, "Pursel," tombstone.

Eldest Lived Longest

The eldest member of the family lived the longest. This was John Purcell, born in 1839, who died in Manitoba in 1934, after spending most of his life in Wardsville.

The sole survivor now is living in Wardsville, keeps bees, attends the Church of Christ, to which his father belonged, and drives out to the cemetery regularly to see that the plot is maintained.

The Purcell Cemetery, of which he is secretary-treasurer, stands in the corner of the old Purcell farm and adjoins the old McLaren Cemetery, started in 1877 by Dugald McLaren, who came from Kintyre, Scotland. *McLean.*

Fence Torn Down

A snake fence, which followed the farm fence-line, separated the two cemeteries until 40 years ago, when it was torn down by mutual agreement, although the cemeteries continue to this day under separate management. The only cue to the distinction, to a passerby, is that there are two large gates, one for each cemetery.

Mr. Purcell is also chairman of the Wardsville Cemetery in the village, and helps to maintain it, along with C. B. Shepherd, chairman of the cemetery board. Reeve Etheridge Purdy is the other member.

This cemetery contains the graves of some of the district's oldest families, including the Wards — for whom the village was named — who first settled the area on 300 acres of crown land.

Fate Uncertain

This cemetery's fate seems somewhat uncertain, since the village ceased maintaining it in 1944, and M. Shepherd undertook to raise a fund for that purpose. He obtained \$2,000, and later another \$600, but with increased cost of wages for maintenance, he has had to use part of the capital fund. Now, Mr. Shepherd feels, with increased assessments, new building and improved tax collections, the village can afford to re-assume its charge of the cemetery.

"In fact," he stated, "the Provincial Cemetery Act requires the municipality to do so. I do not see how the cemetery board can continue to raise money for this purpose."

The Fleming Pioneer Cemetery
Con. 1. Broken Front near the Thames.



The grave stone of James Fleming, First
white settler in Elgin County.



Tall stone that of his son James
and wife Ann Gibb.

COLLEGE BOUNDERS

Golden Weddings.

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Patterson,

Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Long,



Golden Wedding, April 1932.
Diamond Wedding 1942.

Golden Wedding Mar. 1935.



Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Purcell,
Golden, Dec. 1941, Diamond 1951.

Mr. & Mrs. Alex McIntyre,
Golden Wedding July, 1932.

Golden Weddings.



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Mrs. & Mrs. Sylvester King,
Golden Wedding April 1957.



Mrs. & Mrs. Henry Mann & family. 1923.



Mrs. & Mrs. Dougald Lindsay
Golden Wedding April, 1957.





Mr & Mrs. John McIntyre,
Golden Wedding, 1962.



Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Johnston
Golden Wedding April 15, 1959.



Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Campbell,
Golden Wedding, Dec. 27, 1966.



Mr. & Mrs. Garnet Long,
Golden Wedding, June 20, 1967.



Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Purcell. Golden Wedding
January 16. 1968.



Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Johnston.
Golden Wedding June 18. 1969.



MR + MRS. FIRMAN MANN OCT. 12 1971 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



MR + MRS. GORDON WOOLNER DEC. 15 1977



Mr. & Mrs. Jimmar Mann celebrate 59 years
of marriage, Oct. 1980.



Mr. & Mrs. Sam Carson's Wedding Invitation.
1891.

Mr. & Mrs James Tinline
respectfully request the presence
of Mr & Mrs Archibald Campbell at the
marriage of their daughter
Maggie.
on Wednesday March 25th 1891,
at three o'clock
at their residence
Lot 3, Concession 12, Oxford.

CASHMERE

MILLS, HOUSES, STREETS OF CASHMERE SETTLEMENT HAVE VANISHED

By Fred Coyne Hamil.

Only the oldest inhabitants of Mosa Township and adjacent townships in Middlesex, Elgin and Kent can remember when the Cashmere settlement was anything more than a ghost town. It began to die in the middle '70's, and in its last decade or so of life it carried the ignominious nick-name of Suckertown. This was probably a reference to the fish, whose capture in the spring was one of the few remaining occupations of the dwindling population.

The traveler proceeding eastward on Number 2 Highway, a short distance beyond the Kent-Middlesex line, needs careful directions to the old Gardiner or Cashmere Road which leads south to the River Thames. A gate now bars the entrance to the narrow, grass-covered lane which still shows evidence of grading; and where in summer cattle and sheep graze in the shade of the trees which line the road on either side and which have encroached upon the shallow ditches. Several hundred yards from the highway the lane comes to the edge of a high bluff which falls sharply down to the flats extending perhaps a quarter of a mile to the river. Beyond two barns at the base of the bluff the old road has almost disappeared in a wide field, but its line can still be traced to the river bank, which is thickly overgrown with trees and bushes. A little way up, the water dashes over a line of submerged rocks extending across the river, which marks the remains of the old mill dam. Across the stream is a steep, bare hill which drops straight down to the edge of the river. Not a vestige remains of the mills and houses and streets which once occupied the north bank and the field beyond.

This land was part of several hundred acres occupied by Singleton Gardiner in 1825, which he later purchased from Thomas Matthews, the original patentee. Gardiner had first settled on the Talbot Road in Dunwich Township in 1816, and was a brother-in-law of Henry Coyne who followed him to the Talbot Settlement the following year. Both men had brought their families from Northern Ireland to New York State a few years before the war of 1812.

On his removal to Mosa Township Singleton Gardiner built a dam across the Thames River and a grist and saw mill along its bank. He also had an inn for travelers at his home on the Longwoods Road, which was operated by him and his sons for many years. William Baby mentions stopping at Gardiner's Mills in Mosa, where there was a House of Entertainment, when he traveled from York to Sandwich in 1827. Singleton

Gardiner died in 1834, and the mills passed to his eldest son William. In that year the younger son James, aged twenty, began to operate the mills for his brother.

Not far from the Gardiners lived a Scottish family named Gibbs. Two of the Gibbs married daughters of Singleton Gardiner. Across the River in Aldborough Township lived James Fleming whose daughter Rebecca became the wife of James Gardiner. Ann Gibb, a daughter of James Gibb, married James Fleming, Jr. Several of the Gibbs and Flemings played prominent parts in the history of the mills and the village of Cashmere.

In October, 1856, William Gardiner engaged Crosbe Brady to survey and lay out a village on the flats where the mills were situated. Several sales of land had already been made there, the first in 1853 when William Gardiner sold two acres of the saw mill yard south of King street, to his brother James. King street was probably the street shown on the plan of 1856 as Main street. During 1854 William Gardiner sold an acre of the saw mill yard to James Edwards, and one-half acre of land south of King street to Robert Snowden. The name of the infant village appears on the record as Canton. A year later Edwards sold his lot to Charles Bennett, who built and operated a sash factory there.

The plan of the Village of Canton, as Cashmere was first called, shows Gardiner street leading south from the Longwoods Road to the river a short distance west of the mills and the dam, along the western boundary of the East half of lot 28. Extending eastward from this street and parallel to the river, above the mill yard, was Main street, then James street, and finally William street. South of Main street was Queen street, running eastward from the mill yard. Mill street ran north from the north-west corner of the mill yard to William street. Next on the east was Bridge or Thames street, which extended down to the river, where a bridge was designed to be built. Prince street marked the eastern boundary of the village, although the rest of the 108 acre farm back to the Longwoods Road and beyond, and in the South-east section, was surveyed into blocks for future expansion. There was also a short street, unnamed, extending from the westernmost of the four mills up to Main street.

By 1857, one year after the survey, the village of Canton, or Cashmere, was reported to have one hundred inhabitants, with a post office run by E. M. Heal. There were two taverns, operated by Christ-

opher Hendershott and Henry Fleming. James Gardiner was the proprietor of the carding and grist mill; William Gardiner and Singleton Gibb each had a saw mill and blacksmith shop; and George Fleming had a saw mill. The village also boasted Bennett's sash factory, John Meloch's blacksmith shop, and Charles Hawkins' cabinet shop.

William Gardiner died in 1860 and his property in the mills passed into the hands of his brother James Gardiner and James E. Woods as appears by a survey and plan of the mills and yard made in 1867. During this decade and later many sales of lots were made in the village.

In August, 1869, the late Dr. James H. Coyne, of St. Thomas, then a young man of 20, stopped at the home of James Gardiner, "a fine place" on the Longwoods road. Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner were away on a trip to Montreal and Boston, but their three daughters were at home, and the evening was spent in singing and playing the piano. The next morning James Coyne and his cousins "walked down to Cashmere, where we spent half an hour in viewing the surrounding scenery from a hill near the river. It will hardly bear comparison with the other vale of Cashmere in the Far East!"

Cashmere was still a flourishing post village of one hundred inhabitants in 1871. The postmaster was then George Mansfield. The village included James Gardiner's flour and saw mills, John Ferguson's grist and carding mills, and James E. Woods' saw mill and sash, door and blind factory. James Gardiner had moved to Chatham in December, 1870, and later disposed of his property at Cashmere. Five years later, in February, 1876, the village was flooded to a depth of from three to five feet, due to an ice-jam at the Moravian Town bridge a few miles below. This may have hastened its decline, which was already under way.

About the year 1880 "Professor Blot" came down the river in a small boat from London. The following is his account of Cashmere as published in his "A Tour of the Thames." It "seemed a most completely dead and dried up relic of Canada's ante railway times. There are people living who remember it as a brisk and promising little town, its mill site and ford lending it an importance which can scarcely be realized in these days of steam and bridges. Two old mills still make a ghostly show of business on the river front. Its principal street is still dignified by a phantom store, which bears on its fore-front the ancient legend, "Post Office," in shadowy letters, But alas! It is many a day since a disgusted postmaster put up his shutters and turned and turned his key for the last time.

So long that its shutters are tumbling from the windows, and the last vestiges of blue and yellow labels announcing the virtues of Bungye's Ointment and Electric Pills are fluttering in the dejected breeze which still visits the place. Whoever mounts its deserted stair or treads its regular platform does so at peril of life and limb. The pretty village is in ruins, and its inhabitants literally gone a-fishing. What they do in the intervals, when fish are not in season, does not appear on the surface . . .

"Cashmere - the site of the lowest dam - is the head of the net fishing on the Thames, and . . . enormous quantities of fish are taken there with the seine, in the season of course. Evidences of the fishing industry were lying around in the most unprofessional carelessness, in the shape of ropes, nets and boats, indicating that at least a portion of the fishermen follow the calling en amateur!"

The mill dam was broken at one end, but the water rushed so swift through the gap to the lower level that "Professor Blot" and his party did not dare to take their boats through it. Finding a rough and steep bank at one end of the dam, and an impassable mill race at the other, the travellers finally "unloaded on the dry timbers, and lifted the boats over the apron and slide!"

William Baby had much the same experience years before, when Gardiner's dam was still intact. He landed above it, "hired a mill hand to jump the skiff, trunk and package still in it though, over the mill race which he successfully accomplished; but how, it puzzles me."

By 1888 the population of Cashmere had fallen to sixty in number. Michael Dixon operated the flour mill, and Hector McNeil, who had purchased a lot about 1857, was a wagon-maker there. George Mansfield was still listed as postmaster and general merchant.

The village died completely within a few years, the lots reverting to farm land owned by Singleton Gibb. In 1898 the executors of his estates sold "Gardiner's Grist Mill and the Gibb Saw Mill and Yard" to Mary J. Taylor: but twelve years later the "Old Gardiner Grist Mill and property" passed to John S. Gibb, who then owned all 108 acres of the east half of lot 28. In 1911 the latter sold the farm to Archibald D. Patterson for \$10,000. Since 1929 it has been owned by Finlay Patterson.

From the London Free Press 1950.

Albert Hughes, Grocer. Wardsville, Ont., about 1908.



W. P. ...
ALBANY, ONT.
WARDVILLE, ONT.



POST CARD

▲ ▲ X ▲ ▲
▲ PLACE ▲
X STAMP X
● HERE ●
▲ ▲ X ● ▲

MADE IN CANADA

CORRESPONDENCE HERE

NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

Clachan Women's Institute meeting
at home of Mrs. E. J. Purcell
July 1915.









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